

University of Richmond Magazine

**OUR TECHNOLOGY IS WHAT'S
KEEPING US CONNECTED**
to jobs, family, friends, and
more — but it raises issues, too.
Take a deep breath, say UR experts.
We're well-equipped to handle
the complexities of innovation.



EYE

EMPTY TABLES

Tyler Haynes Commons at midday
two weeks after the scheduled end of
spring break



Photograph by Jamie Betts



CRAVINGS

An exhibition focused on the relationship between food, culture, and identity had to close up soon after it opened in the University Museums in February. The write-up for *Off the Menu* said it “creates a place for shared connections over a subject that is as popular on Instagram as it is in family celebrations and religious histories.” These days, the images — and just the notion of getting out for an art exhibit — are reminders of the lives we’re hopeful to resume soon.

1. *Red Pepper*, 1993, by Aaron Fink
2. *The Banquet of the Piacevoli at the Pitti Palace*, 1627, by Stefano della Bella
3. *The Wedding Party*, 1998, by Arnold Mesches
4. *Fundraising Event in a Rose Garden*, 2005, by Warrington Colescott
5. *Mother and children drinking refreshments, Brussels World Fair*, 1958, by Henri Cartier-Bresson
6. *#834*, 2005, by Barbara Weissberger



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EDITOR'S NOTE

This space now between us

Uncertainty perched in our minds as we planned and developed this issue. Specifically, how could we cover the phenomenal hopes the men's basketball team was raising by midseason, but in a way that didn't depend, because of our production schedule, on how things turned out in March? The main uncertainty back then was whether the guys would play themselves into their first NCAA tournament since 2011. It never crossed our minds that there wouldn't be an NCAA tournament.

I'm sure your life these past few months has also been full of these quick turns. You might've suddenly become homebound because your employer acknowledged the necessity or your governor decreed it. You might've been the one to send your employees home and then stayed up nights wondering how to make the next payroll. Or you might've felt the ominous creep of greater demands and uncertainty if you're one of the countless medical professionals or other essential service providers risking your health for the greater public good, for which we're grateful. One Spider, U.S. Rep. Ben Cline, L'07, is in Congress doing his best to help lead the nation's response.

One common story binding us all as I write this is the disorientation of social distancing, a term I'd wager almost none of us knew in February but none of us will forget for all our Februaries to come. It's forced us into everything from wide swings around strangers at the grocery store to anxious contemplation of loved ones left isolated if the worst should strike.

Preparing this issue was an exercise in fighting some of the effects of social distancing as the magazine's staff found new ways to be creative in how we work. I hope reading it has a similar effect for you — that it helps you decrease social distance via stories of a familiar place and our community of Spiders. That's why we left much of the content as planned, even as we adjusted some stories to account for the new reality that hit during production. Our lives go on, and the mission of the university does, too. Just the thought brings me comfort.

This magazine has always been about nurturing the connections that bind Spiders over distances of both time and space. In these anxious times, it has every reason to continue to be, so I hope the issue brings you both Spider Pride and a sense of normalcy. As for the men's basketball story, you can see what we came up with — and stuck with — on Page 80. Next season can't come soon enough.

Matthew Dewald, Editor

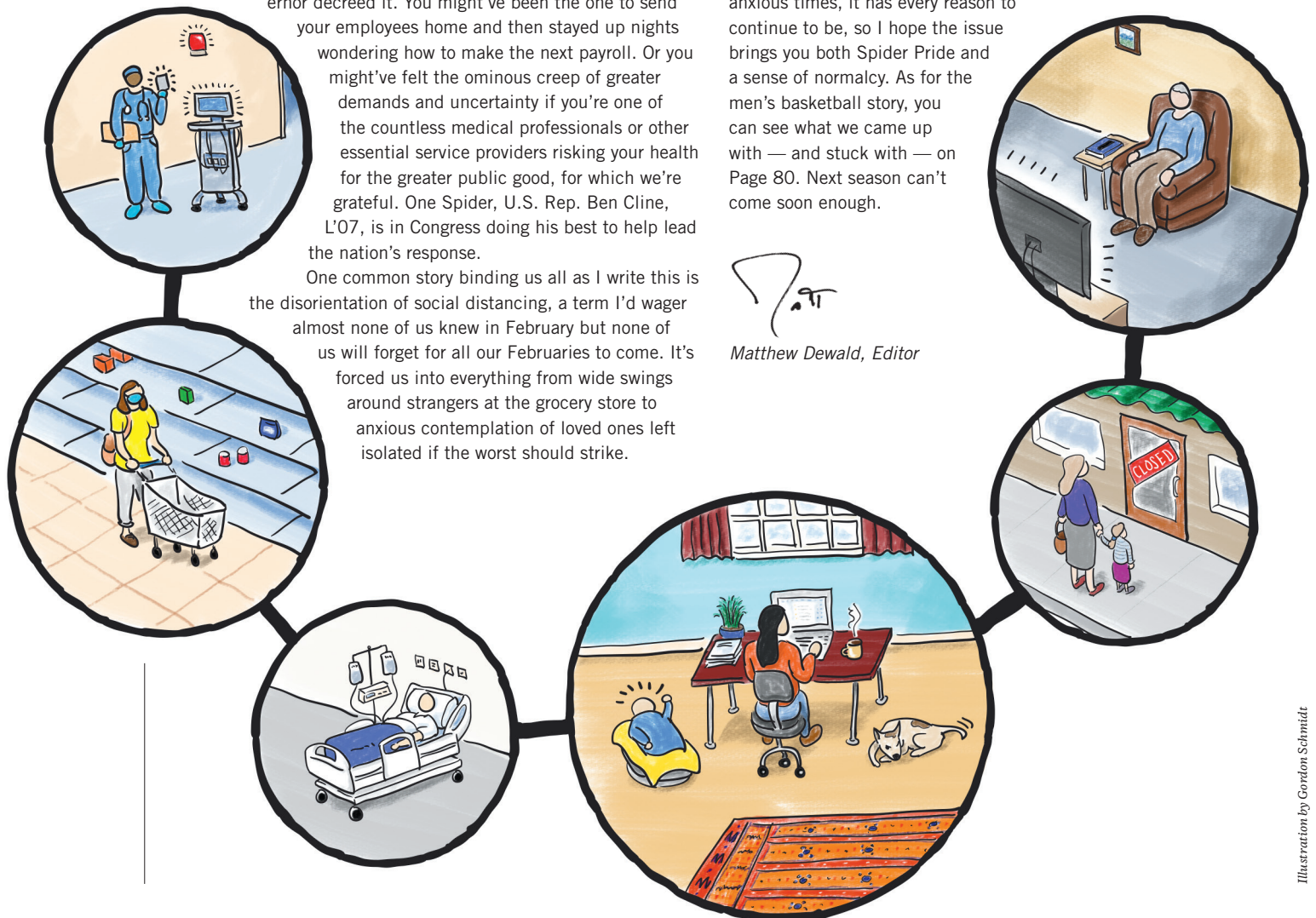


Illustration by Gordon Schmidt

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Illustration by Cathryn Virginia



Photograph by Jamie Betts

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INBOX



YOUR MAGAZINE, YOUR VOICE

Let us know what you think about what you read in this issue. Email your thoughts to magazine@richmond.edu or send us a letter (our postal address is on Page 5). Please include your class year, city, state, and name you were known by as a student, if applicable. All letters to the editor may be edited for clarity or brevity and should not exceed 200 words. We also welcome your story tips at magazine@richmond.edu.



STAY IN TOUCH AND SHARE YOUR PRIDE

Social media, hashtags, and sites:

- [@urichmond](https://twitter.com/urichmond)
- [#spiderpride](https://twitter.com/spiderpride)
- [#spiderspotting](https://twitter.com/spiderspotting)
- [spiderpride.richmond.edu](https://twitter.com/spiderpride)



MILLHISER'S ACADEMIC ROOTS

Aggrey Sam beautifully captures the rich tradition of Millhiser Gym in his “New Beginnings” article [Winter 2020]. He is so right to note that the next stage of Millhiser actually returns the building to its academic roots.

When I first arrived as a [mathematics] faculty member in the mid-1990s, I did not attend concerts or sneak in to play pickup basketball at Millhiser. Instead, I visited Millhiser exactly two times a year to turn in my grades for the semester. There, buttoned up against the chilly temperatures of December or clad in short sleeves in the warmth of a spring day in May, I handed over thick pieces of paper with the names of precious students who had taken calculus, linear algebra, or group theory with a grade assigned to them by completing a designated box with a #2 pencil.

These students have gone on to land faculty positions, help create technological innovations, and advance their communities in their own corners of the world. These quieter moments of Millhiser are woven into the tapestry of their lives.

—Della Dumbaugh,
Richmond

‘SLIP-SHOD’ HISTORY

The left-leaning tendencies of the modern university come as no surprise, nor should slip-shod recounting of history. Mr. Dewald reports that Professor Maurantonio makes the point that our culture “forgets as much as it remembers” and continues that the buried arm of Stonewall Jackson and his mummified horse reflect this, whereas “little is remembered [about] the people that Jackson enslaved” [“The Death of an Arm,” Winter 2020].

Nothing could be further from the truth. Not one person in 10 million could tell you about Jackson’s arm, and not one in a million would know of a moldy old horse that is stuffed and now at VMI. The facts are

these: An Amazon book search of “African American slaves” reveals thousands of titles. The same search reveals one self-published pamphlet regarding Jackson’s horse.

Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson has his place in history. His campaigns have been studied all over the world. No one celebrates his role supporting a cause that enslaved Africans, but he is a part of our nation’s history.

The contention that there is an absence of study of the African American experience is incorrect and, indeed, ludicrous. Every day there is serious study of the African American experience, as indeed there should be. We should not give way to creating sloppy straw men that merely concur with today’s academic fad, “political correctness.” *The Washington Post* may love this sort of thing, but this is pandering.

—Thomas M. W. Green, R’79 and L’83
Winchester, Virginia

Editor’s note: In her presentation, the professor contrasted the documentation and public memorialization of Jackson’s horse and amputated arm with the almost complete absence of historical records about any individual that Jackson enslaved. She did not suggest that enslavement, generally speaking, is not widely studied.

MEMORIES OF DR. HEILMAN

I was very touched by the memoriam in the *UR Magazine* [“E. Bruce Heilman, 1926–2019”]. My years have been filled with opportunity and professional growth due to the one special moment I spent in his office in 1978.

I had been working as a U.S. Coast Guard veteran corpsman when I decided to apply my GI Bill at U of R. After five years as a cutterman, I was ready for this challenge. I was waiting at the dean’s office when I was summoned to meet with Dr. Heilman. We had a warm conversation as I shared the service of my dad in Okinawa during World War II and the lineage of service back to the Continental Army in 1777.

At the conclusion, he looked into my eyes as he asked, “Will you stay the course and graduate from Richmond?” I paused at his seriousness and said confidently, “Yes, I will.” He extended his hand with a warm, yet firm handshake and said, “Welcome as a Richmond Spider.”

Richmond was a challenge, yet it shaped

me for a professional career that has taken me across the USA with additional education and certifications. I now teach at Salt Lake Community College in Utah and continue my consulting efforts helping life science companies in quality compliance management. After 41 years with my wife, Mary Kathryn Valentine, we enjoy three grown kids and seven grandkids.

No regrets, only sincere gratitude to the man who commissioned my life as a Richmond Spider.

—Walter E. Murray, R’81
Salt Lake City

YES TO SCIENCE

I would like to express my satisfaction about the article “The Fastest Way to Learn About Physics” [Winter 2020]. I enjoyed how physics concepts were explained [with the example of] a NASCAR race. I hope that it will not be the last article about science applied to our lives in your magazine.

—Antonio Freitas
Weston, Florida

SPIDERS IN PRO SPORTS

My junior year, Shawn Barber, ’98, was drafted by the Washington Redskins. He was in the apartments the day of the draft and ran up and down the road celebrating when he got drafted — such a fun memory!

—Kerri Kimsey Nicholson, ’99
Parkton, Maryland

Editor’s note: In response to the Postscript graphic on the last page of the previous issue, several readers wrote similar notes about retired Spider professional athletes. This told us two things. First, that the copy was not clear that we listed only current professionals. Second, that Spider pride runs deep. Readers mentioned retired NFL players Matt Joyce, ’94, Walker Gillette, R’70, and Brian Jordan, R’89, who was also an MLB All-Star. Many other Spiders would join them on a list of former professional players.

We were happy to learn of three more Spiders currently working in professional sports. Dennis O’Connor, ’93 and G’95, is vice president of ticket sales and service for the NBA’s Memphis Grizzlies. Bobby Basham, ’02, is director of player development for MLB’s Chicago Cubs. Max Paulsen, ’08, is director of business development for the NHL’s league office.

Illustration by Maria Fabrizio



A strong ensemble

Balance, cooperation, service, and commitment to a common purpose define Richmond's response.

Ever since I was a young boy, music has been at the center of my life — first as a refuge, then as a source of identity, and finally as the field in which I learned what it means to be a leader.

My collaborative leadership style began to take shape in the summer of 1977 at Chanticleer Farm in Indiana, home of George Klemperer, an amateur violinist and cousin of renowned conductor Otto Klemperer. Along with two of George's daughters and another musician, I formed a string quartet that performed in a chamber music festival for several weeks that summer — and continued with the group for the next 16 years. The experience was a lesson not only in the art of chamber music but also in decision-making.

Unlike a symphony orchestra, which is led by a sole conductor, a chamber ensemble embodies collaborative decision-making. Each player has the opportunity to step up and lead. To avoid screeching to a cacophonous halt, however, each player must come to recognize in the performance the potential for discord and instead seek to make this potential a wellspring of creativity and artistry.

In any piece of music there may be one phrase that strikes the ear, initially, as somehow off. But if the members of a chamber ensemble stay with it, the harmonies eventually resolve into a single complex composition of many parts. The key is that each player must learn how to balance their part within multiple voices instantaneously, hearing when to step forward and when to let someone else take the spotlight.

At Richmond, we are blessed to have a world-class ensemble of faculty and staff working in concert to address the impact of COVID-19 on our community. While I have strived to play my part, providing direction and reassurance for the university, other members of the ensemble have stepped forward to make enormous contributions to our work.

Take our faculty, under the guidance of professors Sandra Joireman and Linda Boland and supported by Keith McIntosh's information technology team. They have put in countless extra hours to redesign their courses for remote learning in such a way that delivers the exceptional education for

which Richmond is so well-known.

Or look at our emergency management team, led by Brittany Schaal. She has been at the forefront of our response since Day One, providing a bird's-eye view of our efforts through regular situation reports and making it possible for everyone to work in tandem, even from our remote work environments.

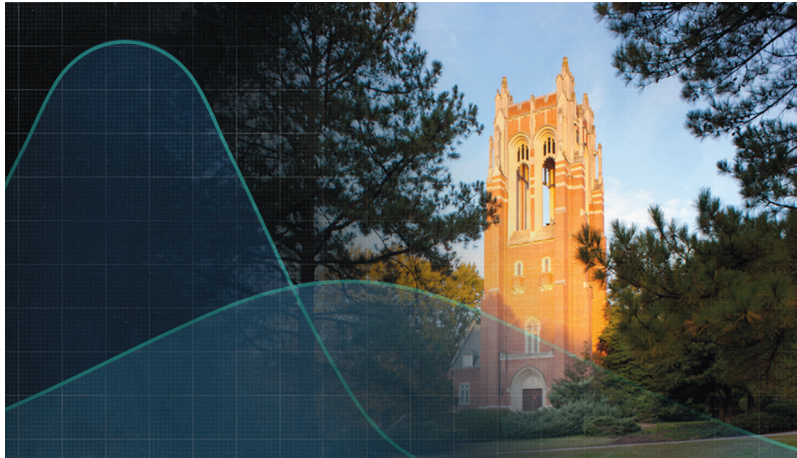
There are many other critical players instrumental to the success of our ensemble, not least of which are all of you — our dedicated alumni, Spider parents, and friends. Thanks to your continued goodwill and financial generosity, we have been able to help students meet urgent needs, from paying for unanticipated but necessary flights and train tickets to providing emergency laptops and Wi-Fi hotspots.

Today, our ensemble is being tested like never before by this unprecedented public health crisis. But through it all we have remained united, bringing together many voices and — at least to my ear — producing a single composition that reflects in beautiful, dynamic, and sometimes surprising ways, the work of a dedicated and accomplished ensemble.

LEARN MORE

For more information about President Crutcher's communications during the COVID-19 outbreak or to read about other university initiatives led by the president's office, go to president.richmond.edu.

OPERATIONS



"Caring for our community and delivering on our educational mission will always guide our decisions," President Ronald A. Crutcher wrote as the university responded to the pandemic.

Responsible steps

The spread of COVID-19 significantly impacted operations at the University of Richmond, just as it impacted the rest of the country and the world this spring. Circumstances were still unfolding as we prepared this issue and went to press. Here is where we stood in late April.

Consistent with guidance from health experts and government officials, the university extended spring break in March and then quickly moved to remote instruction for approximately 1,450 spring semester classes and planned for remote instruction for summer classes. Nearly all students moved off campus.

The university also canceled the spring sports seasons and postponed commencement exercises and Reunion Weekend, consistent with widespread action by universities and colleges across the nation.

"These are decisions that we do not take lightly, but that we nevertheless believe are important," President Ronald A. Crutcher wrote to the campus community. "Please know that caring for our community and delivering on our educational mission will always guide our decisions."

During this period, faculty and staff switched to working remotely as much as possible. Hourly employees who were unable to work remotely because of the nature of their jobs continued to receive pay based on their regularly scheduled hours.

Approximately 80 to 90 essential staff members worked on campus each day to maintain critical operations and support the 51 students (as of mid-April) still on campus, generally international students who could not return home because of travel restrictions.

Planning for safely resuming operations has also begun. The form that any "new normal" takes will follow guidelines from state and federal officials and health experts as they become available.

This is not the first time a health emergency has impacted university operations. The city's health board closed Westhampton College for the month of October during the worldwide influenza epidemic in 1918. More than 250 students fell ill, but there were no fatalities, according to *A Gem of a College* by Claire Millhiser Rosenbaum, W'54.

DOLLARS & SENSE



A good investment

A recent analysis of higher education's return on investment ranked the University of Richmond among the nation's top 3% for 40-year return and tied for 12th among all liberal arts institutions. Liberal arts institutions did very well overall in the analysis, providing a median return more than \$200,000 higher than for colleges and universities generally.

The study, conducted by Georgetown University's Center on Education and the Workforce, estimated Richmond's 40-year ROI at more than \$1.3 million. For liberal arts institutions overall, it found a 40-year ROI average of \$918,000, roughly on par with that of four-year engineering and technology-related schools (\$917,000) and four-year business and management schools (\$913,000).

COMMUNITY

UR donates gloves

In March, chemistry professor Mike Leopold led a university effort to donate 7,000 pairs of gloves from the inventory in the Gottwald Center for the Sciences to health care workers in Virginia running low on protective supplies.

Working closely with faculty colleagues across the sciences and in collaboration with administrators, Leopold arranged the donation to the Central Virginia Incident Management Team so they could be distributed to health care providers across the state who are the most in need.

"I realized that, in the transition to remote learning, we would have boxes of gloves sitting around in our labs for months," Leopold said. "I thought, 'Why not make great use of them now and help keep those on the front lines fighting this pandemic safe?'"



FOR MORE INFO

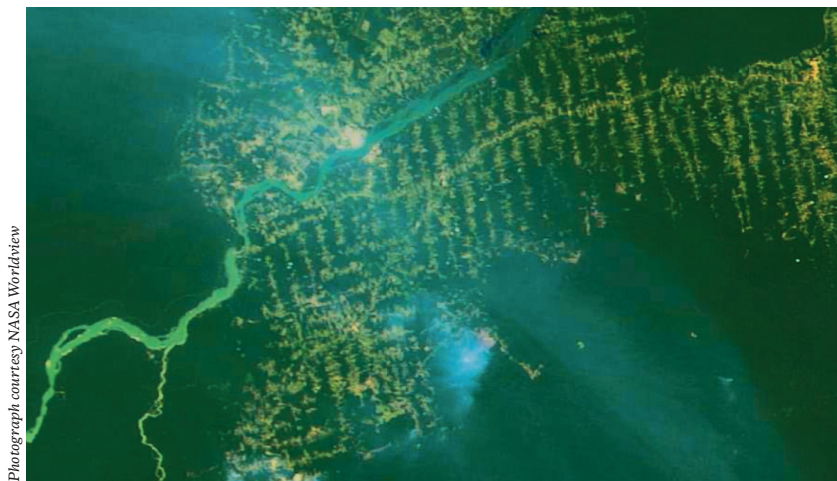
The COVID-19 situation was fluid and continued to evolve as we went to press. For the latest information about the university's response to this health emergency, go to richmond.edu/coronavirus.

QUOTATION

“Be unapologetic in your pursuit of your most authentic self.”

Actor **BRYAN TERRELL CLARK**, who played George Washington in *Hamilton* on Broadway, speaking to music, theater, and dance students during a master class on campus in February, as quoted by *The Collegian*

ENVIRONMENT



UR researchers are studying Amazon deforestation using satellite data.

Rainy day blues

The wonders of the Amazon rainforest include this remarkable fact: The leaves of its 400 billion or so trees release so much moisture into the atmosphere that they generate low-level clouds and their own rainfall.

The interruption of this process, called evapotranspiration, is one of the many concerns related to forest degradation, deforestation, and road building in the Amazon that threaten the region's ecosystem.

To better understand the changes that the Amazon is undergoing, NASA awarded a grant of more than \$700,000 to Stephanie Spera, assistant professor of climate change and remote sensing, for a three-year study. She will work with co-investigator David Salisbury, chair of the geography and the environment department, to use past and current

satellite data to study ecosystem changes in the Amazon rainforest. They will complement the analysis with fieldwork to verify the findings.

“We want to be able to ‘look’ back in time, and we have some pretty robust satellite data that has been collected over the last 20 years,” Spera said.

The pair will also develop tools that allow researchers and planners “to analyze tradeoffs between land cover change and ecosystem services through scenarios modelling,” according to NASA's announcement.

The project emphasizes capacity-building of local indigenous and non-indigenous groups to generate new knowledge about the Amazon and give them greater voice in policy debates about the region they call home.



SPATIAL ANALYSIS

Spera, Salisbury, and other geography and the environment professors regularly work with students in the Spatial Analysis Lab. The hybrid classroom and computer lab offers state-of-the-art geospatial technology to support student learning.

IN THE NEWS

When media cover news and events, they come to Richmond for perspective and expertise. Here's a sample of recent stories that put the university in the news:



When Michael Bloomberg put redlining in the news, CBS News sought expertise from **ROB**

NELSON, director of the Digital Scholarship Lab, which produced “Mapping Inequality,” a project focused on the discriminatory practice's origin. “The federal government, at the time, called this best practices for responsible lending,” Nelson said.



USA TODAY

Political science professor **ERNEST MCGOWEN** gave

USA Today perspective on gun regulations being debated in Virginia in February.

“Similar proposals in other states have not been struck down as violating the Second Amendment,” he said.



Fast Company published an

article co-written by marketing professor **SARA HANSON** about how tech is increasingly making tipping a point-of-sale practice.

“Customers, employees, and owners all benefit if businesses stick to tradition — and request the tip only after the coffee is poured,” she wrote.



In an article for *Medium*, math

professor **DELLA DUMBAUGH** made the case that you — yes, you — might benefit by revisiting algebra as an adult. “If you work toward mastering a mathematical idea with a goal of teaching it to others, you not only enhance your own understanding of the concept, but you also build communication skills in the process,” she wrote.



“There is a lack of information about the [rap] genre, and a lot of the characterizations of it that you see in a legal context are incorrect,”

liberal arts professor **ERIK NIELSON**, an expert on the use of rap lyrics in court, told NPR's *1A* during a program on free speech.



WHERE TO START?

If you were presented with Griffiths' bio as a character sketch, you'd say it's too much. She:

- Lives in Geneva, Switzerland, and speaks five languages.
- Majors in business administration with concentrations in finance, economics, and international business
- Minors in environmental studies
- Is one of UR's Oldham Scholars.

SOUND INVESTING *Each year, a group of Robins School of Business students manages about \$750,000 of university capital through the Student Managed Investment Fund. They have a faculty adviser, but they make their own decisions. Before the economic crisis hit, Claire Griffiths, '20, talked about being this year's general manager.*

What are some of your responsibilities?

I'm in charge of overseeing the two funds SMIF manages: the growth and value funds. I spend anywhere from two to three hours a week meeting with the members of these funds to make sure everything is running well.

When it comes time for the end-of-the-year report or other presentations to the board of trustees, I'll oversee that project and delegate responsibilities to make sure we've put together a good final product.

What does it take to be the general manager?

You need to be recommended by both your peers and the faculty, so building good rapport is important. You'll definitely need good communication skills since the position requires you to delegate tasks among other members of the fund, as well as communicate with members of the board of trustees.

Most of all, you'll

need to be passionate about the work.

Can you explain the ESG fund SMIF is considering creating?

"ESG" stands for "environmental, social, and governance." Before you invest, you gather facts in these three broad categories — facts relative to their impact on these sectors or their specific role within each category — and determine whether to invest in these companies based on what you find.

What is your plan for after graduation?

I'm starting at Barclays on the flow volatility sales-trading desk, where I'll be trading derivatives and options, so I'd like to stay there for a few years. I could see myself staying there for a long time, too.

Maybe after that I'll move into the nonprofit sector. I want to make sure that companies that do genuine, good work have the resources to do so; I want them to run effectively.

Thinking way down the road — after I've worked for a while and retired — it would be nice to come back and teach at UR.

You approach finance with empathy and concern for people's well-being. Where do you think that comes from?

I grew up in nine different countries, some of which were developing countries. I saw the effects that limited access to capital can have on a whole nation.

I know that I'll be working at a big company, and they donate to good causes, for sure. But I want to do more than just donate. I want to do what is best for the most people, and I want to take a more hands-on approach. There's no better way to do that than working for a cause you care about.

As you approach graduation, how do you feel about your time at SMIF?

This is something I never thought I would be able to do. The opportunity is incredible.

It's one of the only places where you have a safe environment to learn about investing. If you mess up, you don't get fired. Professors will ask you,

"OK, what did you learn?" and you're able to use that when you invest in the next company.

How does it feel to be part of an upcoming smart but underrepresented group in the finance industry?

From my first externship as a sophomore, I found out how women can be intimidated in a male-dominated field. Men are not subject to the imposter syndrome other underrepresented groups feel.

With my position now, both as a senior and just a

generally well-networked person, I try to help other young women overcome these struggles as best I can. I do my best to mentor younger women. I'll read résumés. I'll use connections I have.

I'll encourage the upcoming classes to do what they're passionate about, just as seniors did for me when I was getting my start at Richmond.



Photograph by Kim Lee Schmidt

SPEAKERS



SHARP SERIES During the final installment of this year's Sharp Series, Eboo Patel, founder and president of Interfaith Youth Core, described why he believes that amid uncertainty, there is great possibility.

Patel presented his ideas via webinar in April. "Be good," he said, "and create spaces where others can be good with you."

LAW



Millions of veterans could see better GI Bill benefits because of pro bono work by a Richmond Law alum.

A victory for veterans

Pro bono cases taken on by corporate attorneys don't usually end like this.

David DePippo, L'02, was part of a legal team that restored educational benefits to potentially millions of post-9/11 veterans with an August 2019 ruling by the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims. The case concerned the way that Veterans Affairs calculates GI Bill benefits.

DePippo, senior counsel at Dominion Energy, participated in the case pro bono, or without expectation of payment, which attorneys often do as part of the profession's commitment to promoting justice and making it equally accessible to everyone.

Pro bono cases for corporate attorneys like DePippo are typically one-offs, say helping a client draft a will or settle a landlord-tenant dispute. Benefits cases involving federal agencies, however, are often very complex and require a significant, ongoing commitment by the attorneys involved.

DePippo's client — a four-time combat Army veteran and current FBI special agent — was eligible for both Post-9/11 and Montgomery GI Bill benefits. He ran into trouble after he was accepted at Yale Divinity School and the VA denied educational benefits because of how it interpreted rules about the two GI Bill programs. If the August ruling continues to hold up after additional appeal by the VA, it will benefit DePippo's client and restore 12 months of educational benefits to an estimated 1.7 million veterans.

"That's satisfying, knowing firsthand what it did for you," said DePippo, himself a Coast Guard veteran who used the GI Bill to attend Richmond Law. "If you can hold the victory, you have the opportunity to change a lot of people's lives and allow them to continue to better themselves, their families, and contribute to society."



PRO PATRIA

Richmond Law has a proud tradition of supporting veterans. The Veterans and Military Law Association, for example, offers support for students who are veterans and partners with Richmond's Veterans Affairs hospital to offer pro bono legal services.

AROUND CAMPUS



Arts investment

The recent renovation of the Visual Arts Building completed the latest phase of the university's \$37 million investment in arts facilities around Westhampton Green over the last four years.

In 2017, Perkinson Recital Hall in North Court received significant enhancements, and other spaces in the building were transformed into a new choir room and a global studio. A new dance studio, acting studio, and two-story scene shop were completed in the Modlin Center for the Arts that same year. In 2018, Booker Hall, home to Camp Concert Hall and the Parsons Music Library, underwent extensive modernization.

"These spaces serve as a hub of creativity on campus," said Shannon Hooker, assistant director of the Modlin Center. "There's more synergy and discovery around the arts after these renovations."

Free speech

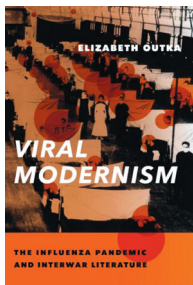
Professor Jessica Flanigan and student Alec Greven received grant funding from the Institute for Humane Studies to develop research that will help advance free speech on college campuses.

Flanigan, an associate professor of leadership studies and politics, philosophy, economics, and law, and Greven, a junior who led a campuswide initiative to reform the university's speech and conduct codes, will develop "The Open Inquiry Toolkit."

Their research is meant to develop information for students and faculty about programs and free-speech strategies aimed at advancing the discussion of free speech on college campuses.

"Our main goal is to develop a framework for promoting free speech and independent thought in classrooms and throughout student culture," Flanigan said.

BOOKS



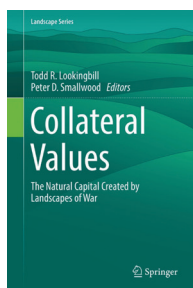
Pandemic culture

The worldwide influenza pandemic of 1918–19 killed suddenly and shockingly. Estimates of fatalities range from 50 million to 100

million, but no one really knows for sure. World War I, by comparison, killed about 8.5 million soldiers.

And yet, in early 20th-century studies of English-language literature, the war looms large but the pandemic is little noticed. English professor **ELIZABETH OUTKA** sets out to notice in *Viral Modernism* by rereading Willa Cather, Virginia Woolf, T.S. Eliot, and others with a watchful eye for signs and representations of the viral threat.

“The pandemic is a hidden force that has been there all along, exerting weight and influence,” she writes. “When we learn to see the effects of this force, a new interpretive landscape emerges.”



Of the poppies in Flanders fields

War has long-lasting negative impacts on the environment, but sites of conflict

sometimes offer unintended environmental opportunities when battlefields are preserved or borders demilitarized.

This potential is the focus of *Collateral Values: The Natural Capital Created by Landscapes of War*, edited by **TODD LOOKINGBILL** and **PETER SMALLWOOD**, professors of biology, geography, and the environment. The title of one of its essays captures the volume’s spirit: “Valuing the Wounds of War: Korea’s DMZ as Nature Preserve.”

Lookingbill and Smallwood offer similar hopeful notes in their introductory essay. The stories in the book, they write, “provide powerful arguments for the creation of post-war conservation areas.”



DEEPEDED LEARNING

This spring course was one of six offered as part of a pilot program to expand knowledge of UR’s history. They are designed to contribute to the goals of belonging outlined in the university’s 2019 Making Excellence Inclusive report.

QUOTATION

“Look them in the eye and say, ‘Anything I want.’”

Professor **BERT ASHE** on how English majors should answer the question, “What will you do with your degree?” He was quoted in a story in *The Collegian* about a rebound in interest in majoring in English at UR.

HUMANITIES



Me, myself, and yo

“The U.S.-Mexican border es una herida abierta,” declares Gloria Anzaldúa in her landmark 1987 volume *Borderlands/La Frontera: The New Mestiza*. The text was fittingly the first reading that students encountered this spring in what’s believed to be UR’s first bilingual course.

The course, Gender, Race, and Performance Across the Americas, is focused on the theory and practice of identity performance, both in staged ways like theater roles and as we navigate our personal lives through identities like race, gender, sexuality, language, and culture.

As in real life, language choice in the course’s discussions, readings, and writings was often fluid, sometimes switching midsentence or combining elements of both languages to create new words.

“Many authors explore and manip-

ulate language in both Spanish and English,” said Mariella Mendez, a professor of Latin American, Latino, and Iberian Studies, who co-taught with theater and dance professor Patricia Herrera. “They express the experience of being in between.”

For 10 of the students, the course was meant to be preparation for a May trip to Havana, Cuba, to attend the Latin American Theatre Festival. The COVID-19 emergency scuttled those plans.

Nonetheless, the course’s bilingual element expanded the vocabulary for talking about the issues at the core of the course, trip or no trip.

“They are trying to think about how they perform their identities in different contexts,” Herrera said before spring break. “Our conversations have been intense.”

Photograph courtesy Micá Morgan



‘Someone to understand’

Micá Morgan, GC'21, has been present for people at terrible moments in their lives. As the director of crisis response services at the YWCA Richmond, Morgan manages — and sometimes answers — a 24-hour hotline for survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence. Here, she shares advice for helping someone you love when they turn to you during a personal crisis.

1. LISTEN FIRST

I think everyone's situation is completely different. Start by being a listening ear. Some people will come to you and tell their story, and they just want someone to listen and understand.

Our statistics show it takes someone an average of seven times to call the hotline for a person to actually leave a domestic violence situation. A call to us means that someone is having the worst day of their life. We have to be that voice of hope for them when they call.

It comes down to being a kind human and believing what they say the first time.

2. PROVIDE PERSPECTIVE

There's an old saying: You can't see the forest for the trees. If you're too close to a situation, then it's harder to see a way out.

As a friend, I would say getting people to realize what's going on and trying to give

them as much information as possible — just kind of highlighting where a person can go if they want to. Everyone's safety plan is going to be different depending on what their situation is, but help them figure out what's the next best step.

3. DON'T TELL THEM WHAT TO DO

I want to encourage you and tell you what options you have, but I don't want to make that decision for you. So, at the YWCA, we empower men and women to make the decision that is best for them.

You want to help and fix and solve, but sometimes that pushes a person away. It has the opposite effect of what you're actually trying to accomplish. All you can do is encourage.

4. BUILD CONFIDENCE

Validating someone's feelings can go a long way. You have to build them up. If I don't

believe that I can succeed, then nine times out of 10, I won't make it on my own. We just keep going until they get where they want to be.

My staff does a great job. Most people, when they call, feel like the staff have gone through that exact situation.

5. CHECK IN ON THEM — AND YOURSELF

If you haven't heard from your friend in a few days, check in on them, but don't make it obvious.

You also have to help yourself. You're not going to be good to anyone else if you're not good. We worry and focus a lot on secondary trauma for the staff because they're seeing so much and hearing so much. Everyone has a different thing that helps them unwind. Take a walk, go get something to eat, step away from everything that happened.

A lot of the staff have their own therapists that they see to kind of break away and release that out to a professional because most of us are not licensed clinical social workers. They need someone to talk to as well.



FULL CREDIT

Morgan is pursuing her master's degree in nonprofit studies through UR's School of Professional and Continuing Studies.

As of this spring, the program has awarded nearly 50 degrees since its launch in 2014. More information is available at spcs.richmond.edu/degrees/programs/nonprofit-studies.


KIDS' LIT AT THE COLLEGE LEVEL

Why spend a semester of college studying children's literature? Because it's the foundation of some of our earliest ideas about the world, Gruner said.

"It's important for students to recognize where the ideas they have come from, especially when they don't even know they came from [children's literature]," she said.



Illustration by Mike Domina

But what's it mean?

In February, English professor Elisabeth Gruner answered this question from a 14-year-old in Indianapolis: "Do authors really put deeper meaning into poems and stories — or do readers make it up?" Her essay appeared as part of "Curious Kids," a series published by TheConversation.com "for children of all ages."

One of my favorite novels is *Charlotte's Web*, the famous story of a friendship between a pig and a spider.

I often talk about this novel with my students studying children's literature. At some point, someone always asks about "deeper meaning." Is it really a story of, say, the cycle of death and rebirth? Or the importance of friendship? Or the significance of writing?

Or is it just a story of life in the barn, with talking animals?

In a way, it doesn't matter. Because every writer is also a reader, and that means that whatever a writer puts into a story probably came from somewhere else, whether it's another story or a poem or their own life experience.

And readers, too, will bring their own experience — of other stories, other poems, and life — and that will direct their interpretation of what they absorb. We can see one example of this if we look at the spider in *Charlotte's Web*.

THE MEANING OF CHARACTER

That spider, Charlotte, is based on a real spider. We know this because E.B. White drew pictures of spiders, studied them, and made sure to be as accurate as he could when he wrote about them.

But to a reader, she may also represent Arachne, the talented weaver who challenged the goddess Athena and was changed into a spider for her pride. Or she may be the "noiseless patient spider" of Walt Whitman's poem, who flings out thread-like filaments as the poet flings out words.

She may also be the spider who weaves "the silken tent" of Robert Frost's poem. Maybe we'll think about how the spider, like a human storyteller, generates something seemingly out of nothing, which makes her web miraculous.

Each of these spiders symbolizes different things. When we read about her, then, we may think of all those other spiders. Or we may just think about the spider we saw on our own front porch that morning,

weaving her own web.

As the writer Philip Pullman said, "The meaning of a story emerges in the meeting between the words on the page and the thoughts in the reader's mind."

THE READER IS IN CHARGE

What Pullman is suggesting, then, is that it's up to readers to make the meaning they want out of the stories they hear and the books they read.

It's a powerful statement: We are in charge.

This doesn't mean that anything goes. Meanings come from context, from convention, from older stories, and from previous usage. But it's up to us to interpret what we read and to make the case for how we're doing it.

Or as the novelist John Green writes of his books, "They belong to their readers now, which is a great thing — because the books are more powerful in the hands of my readers than they could ever be in my hands."

What we do with the books we read matters, Green tells us. It's up to us to make the meaning and up to us to decide what to do with that meaning once we've made it.

INNOVATION



VIRTUAL REALITY This year, nearly two dozen faculty explored how to incorporate virtual reality into their classes through UR's Technology Learning Center.

"It's amazing for my students to be able to walk into the molecule and see it from the inside," said Eugene Wu, a biology and biochemistry professor who uses VR in his structural biology class.

COMMUNITY



Photograph courtesy Callie Cinque

This student's great idea captures what we're missing under the necessity of social distancing.

Come one, come all

An unlikely pop-up called Tea & Bread was one of this year's best spots on campus for nourishment of mind, body, and spirit. It happened every Sunday night in the University Forest Apartment of Callie Cinque, '20, and her roommates.

"I like to say that my life has happened around a kitchen table," said Cinque, whose family get-togethers have revolved around kitchen and dinner tables all her life. "I've always felt that I can get to know someone better if I'm having a meal with them."

She's also a dedicated baker, an enviable trait in any college roommate, but it doesn't come without its problems when you do it every week. For example, how much bread can four seniors sharing an apartment reasonably eat?

That's why they decided to throw their doors open to the campus

community on Sunday nights. The rules were simple: Come one, come all. There was no formal invite, no charge for a slice of zucchini bread or cup of tea. Just drop by between 9 and 11, stay as long as you like. The marketing, if you can call it that, was purely word-of-mouth. "Tell anyone you know that they can bring anyone they know," Cinque and her roommates told their friends.

And what they discovered, to their delight, was that if you bake it, they will come.

They think they've hosted as many as 60 people a night — they don't keep count — but what matters most is that they're meeting new people and adding a touch of community.

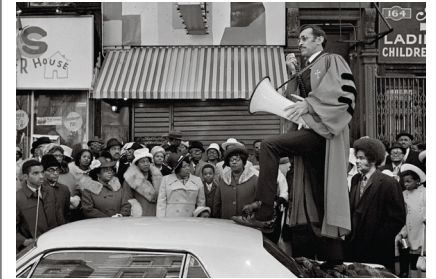
"It wasn't like we intended, 'If people come here, they're going to talk,'" Cinque said. "but if people are sharing food, they're going to be conversing."



MANY INTERESTS

Cinque's interest in food and community-building are core to her entire UR experience. A biochemistry major, she focused her honors thesis on a study of gluten, and she's president of UR's SEEDS Project, a student-run organization that arranges service-learning trips and cultivates lives of active citizenship.

RECENT NEWS



Walker's legacy

In February, the university hosted a national symposium to explore the politics of black religion through the legacy of civil rights leader Rev. Wyatt Tee Walker.

Walker began his civil rights advocacy as pastor of Gillfield Baptist Church in Petersburg, Virginia. He rose to national prominence, becoming chief of staff to Martin Luther King Jr. and executive director of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. In 2016, he and his wife, Theresa, donated his papers and other materials to the university for preservation and study by scholars, students, and the general public.

Book prize

Journalism professor Shahan Mufti received one of his field's top prizes, a J. Anthony Lukas Work-In-Progress Award, to support the completion of his forthcoming book, *American Caliph: The True Story of the Hanafi Siege, America's First Homegrown Islamic Terror Attack*.

In March 1977, armed members of a fringe Muslim group called the Hanafi Movement seized several buildings in Washington, D.C., targeting a Jewish organization, worshippers at a rival mosque, and a local D.C. government building. They killed a reporter and a guard and took 149 people hostage. Negotiations ended the siege on the third day without further loss of life. Its leader was convicted of armed kidnapping and conspiracy and died in prison in 2003, according to *The Washington Post*.

Mufti's book "details the formation and development of competing Muslim communities in America and explores issues of race, immigration, foreign policy, Islam, and terrorism in 20th-century America," according to an announcement from Harvard University's Nieman Foundation, which presents the award.

SPORTS

QUOTATION

“Day 11 without baseball. Got thrown out of a Macy’s for trying to swipe a bag. #OneRichmond”

@SPIDERBASEBALL keeping things light in a tweet March 23

BASKETBALL



Jacob Gilyard, above, had one of the program’s best individual seasons this year. The team did great, too.

Can we tip off yet?

Men’s basketball fans had been waiting for a season like this one. With a 24-7 record, the team entered the A-10 tournament as the No. 2 seed, and they had a fighting chance to make their first NCAA tournament appearance since their 2011 Sweet Sixteen run. Most major bracketologists predicted they were one side or the other of the cusp of the field. We’ll never know how things would have turned out in this, the ultimate wait’ll-next-year sports moment.

But we do know there were some spectacular high points that explain this year’s success, many of them tied to the junior class who made up the core of this year’s roster (see Page 80). Jacob Gilyard led all of Division I in steals this season, with 99. The

next-closest guy wasn’t even all that close at 89. Gilyard broke the Spider record for career steals in mid-January and has another season to add to the total. Nick Sherod also ended the season in the nation’s top 10 with his 43.8% three-point shooting.

As a team, the Spiders were very careful with the ball, posting the nation’s ninth-best assist-to-turnover ratio and ranking 21st for fewest turnovers. They also took advantage of what their opponents gave, ranking No. 11 in free-throw percentage.

National media have expectations the Spiders will bring joy to the Robins Center next season. They earned top-25 votes in the final AP poll, and ESPN and NBC put them in the top 25 in their first 2020-21 rankings.

RUNDOWN



Photograph by Keith Lucas/Richmond Athletics

Top 20 team

Men’s lacrosse ended its season at 4-3 and ranked No. 20 nationally. This marks the third consecutive year that the Spiders have ended the season in the top 20.

It had opened the conference season 1-0 when play ended. The Spiders are 30-5 all-time in the Southern Conference and have played in the conference championship game in every season since the program’s creation in 2014.

1,000-point club

Senior Jaide Hines-Clarke became the 25th member of the women’s basketball 1,000-point club with a three-point shot over VCU in February. She finished her career with 1,130 points, 17th-best all-time.

The team made great strides under first-year head coach Aaron Roussell, improving from nine wins last season to 15 this season. It won its first game in the A-10 tournament just before the games were halted.

Speedy advocate

As a senior, Ave Grosenheider, ’19 and L’22, set Richmond’s cross-country record in the indoor 3K. Now she’s breaking new ground as the first Spider to compete as a varsity athlete while enrolled at Richmond Law. She is eligible after redshirting because of an injury in her freshman year.

The transition to law school brought significant adjustments. As an undergraduate, she could schedule her classes around her morning practice — a luxury not offered to first-year law students. Staying at Richmond helped her make it work, she said.

“The University of Richmond is a place where you are encouraged to pursue your interests — academically, athletically, and otherwise — to the best of your ability,” she said.



WIN TOTALS

The Spiders’ 24 regular season wins this season tied a program high set in 2009-10 and repeated in 2010-11, the year they went to the Sweet Sixteen. The 14 A-10 wins were a new program record for conference wins in a season.

SEASON, INTERRUPTED *Women's lacrosse was undefeated and ranked 10th in one national poll when the season was abruptly canceled on a Friday in March. Head coach Allison Kwolek talks about leading her team through the sudden change.*

You were having a great season when everything was called off. What made this such a good year for you?
We had a solid group of returners who had experienced back-to-back championships, and we had two transfers who came in and made an immediate impact. Then you add in a very talented freshman class that was ready to go from the start. That combination

was a catalyst to a promising season. We also had a fall season where they saw a lot of success against great competition. We had a lot of confidence going into the spring season.

Can you walk me through learning that the season was officially canceled?
At the end of Wednesday morning practice that week, I told the team that I was still optimistic that we'd move

forward with our season. By Wednesday afternoon, the Ivy League had canceled spring seasons. With more cancellations that night, I knew that it was only a matter of time.

On Thursday morning, I told them that things had shifted so much that we were just trying to make it to Saturday to play one more game.

When the NCAA tweeted on Friday that it had canceled spring championships, I called the team for a meeting and told them that our season was most likely going to be over.

So you never even made it to Saturday?
No, we didn't. I was thankful that we had Friday. We already had a catered meal because of spring break, so I said, "We're going to have a final team lunch together, celebrate our season, and spend that time with each other."

The coaches and underclassmen put together a little senior day for our seniors. We had flowers for them, and the underclassmen made posters to try to give them a senior day that they weren't going to get in April.

It had to be particularly bittersweet for the seniors. What was your message for them?
I told them that

they've had a huge impact since their freshman year and have contributed so much to the program on and off the field. They narrowly lost the A-10 championship as freshmen and then won their sophomore and junior years. They injected such great energy into the program.

I also said that I know that when they leave Richmond, they'll have the skills to be highly successful. They should be really proud of what they've done.

How did your conversations with players shift after the initial shock wore off?
Well, obviously we are all apart now, so it's more like how we communicate in the summertime and over winter break. They're back home and enjoying time with their families and loved ones. Their days have changed

so much. As players, they didn't have any downtime. It's such a 180 for them. I've heard from parents that they're really sad to see the season end, but they're also happy to have their daughters home.

What are some of the lasting lessons that you hope your players are learning through this?
This puts things in perspective, and life is bigger than lacrosse. As athletes, they're used to making sacrifices, and I think they understand that they're making a sacrifice for the health of the nation. It's tough that this is unraveling for everybody right now, but I do think that they have that perspective.

What advice do you have for coaches who might have to go through some sudden change like this in the future?
The biggest thing is that the players know you care about them and that you're here for them. That has been the most important thing.

It's normal to be afraid to say the wrong thing, but as long as you're conveying that you're here to support them, that's what matters the most.



FIRST CLASS

The freshman class wrote an open letter to the seniors that the athletics department published on richmondspiders.com. It read, in part, "You showed us that being best friends with a senior was completely normal and that spending one-on-one time with an upperclassman was an everyday thing. ... Our unparalleled team culture is rooted in your class, and we promise to carry on the legacy that you created."



Photograph courtesy Richmond Athletics

**HOW MUCH
INFRASTRUCTURE
DOES IT TAKE
TO SCREW IN A
LIGHT BULB?**

A LOT, which we in the United States take mostly for granted. For the vast majority of people in the **DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO**, a reliable electric grid is nowhere in sight. **TWO SPIDERS HAVE BEEN WORKING ON** expanding a new private-sector, solar energy-based model that leapfrogs undeveloped infrastructure **WITH INNOVATIONS DRIVEN FROM THE BOTTOM UP** by the unmet needs of Congo's vast but poorly served consumer market.



By Michelle Tedford



S JAMIE EVANS, '05,

mapped out the nearly 1,800-mile route to deliver products to his client, he discovered big obstacles in his way: several rivers, a jungle,

and a road system fraught with potholes and bandits.

He had more than 10,000 solar lanterns to deliver to the Catholic diocese of Tshumbe in the heart of the Democratic Republic of Congo. Bishop Nicolas Djomo, a champion of humanitarian rights, needed Evans and the for-profit business he works for, d.light, to provide the Catholic community there with a better life in a rural part of Congo unlikely to ever be served by the national power grid.

The cargo from d.light had already begun its long journey, having arrived months before from Hong Kong to Matadi, a port city on the banks of the Congo River 90 miles inland from the Atlantic coast, before trucks hauled the lanterns to a warehouse in the capital Kinshasa. When Djomo's order came, planes then flew the lanterns 1,000 miles to a warehouse in Goma on the country's eastern edge. From Goma, they flew 400 miles west to an airstrip in the central Congolese city of Lodja. From there, some local combination of trucks, motorbikes, people — possibly even canoes or pack animals — got them the proverbial last mile into people's homes and businesses.

"This work often lays bare how inaccessible some parts of our world remain. It also reminds me of how efficient infrastructure in more developed parts of the world makes daily life," said Evans, who is from a small town in central Virginia. "I've been doing this for what feels like a long time now, but parts of DRC, like some other countries in sub-Saharan Africa, make you realize that these kinds of challenges are going to take a lot more time to overcome."

In a country where an estimated 9% of the population has access to electricity, having a rechargeable solar lantern can improve the productivity, safety, and education of those within view of the light. Having a rechargeable household system can mean having stable power to run lights, fans, and a television. And both options mean enjoying power decades before a traditional electricity grid would come to the area.

Congo is one of 70 countries to which d.light has, in 12 years, brought solar power, impacting the lives of more than 100 million people in the countries where it operates. Its push to harness the power of the sun is part of a wider movement to develop private sector-driven

solutions to development challenges once relegated to charities. Their solutions are using new technologies and methods to bring people the services they need and want in places where governments are often unwilling or unable to provide. It's a new way of doing business, and in the Democratic Republic of Congo, two University of Richmond graduates are lighting the way.

POWER OF LIGHT

The Democratic Republic of Congo often makes headlines for guns, disease, political turmoil, and death.

Evans prefers his own words to describe the nation the size of the United States east of the Mississippi where more than 84 million people live: humid, expansive, impenetrable, broccoli green, and *chaleur humaine*, which translates from French as "human warmth."

"The smiles you get from people and the warmth from their welcome is second to none," he said.

Despite their warmth and the demand for solar energy products, it can be risky for a for-profit company to do business in a country dealing with Ebola and militias. Grants, loans, and investors patient enough to wait a decade for a return on investment mitigate the risk of entering a new market where some customers earn as little as \$2 a day.

Evans arrived in Congo in 2016 after nearly two decades of international experience, including consulting for a hydroelectric project in the nation of Georgia. D.light had recently won a competitive grant, part of an effort to set up a solar technology industry in Congo. The grant came from UK Aid Direct, funded by the British government and administered by Adam Smith International. Adam Smith International's team included Nate Hulley, '01.

The first strategy meeting between funders and businesses was held in an office building in Kinshasa over freeze-dried coffee. Many of the partners had previously met only through emails or conference calls. It was then, during introductions, that both Evans and Hulley recognized decidedly American accents in each other's spoken French. The two initiated the American custom of asking personal questions of a complete stranger and discovered their shared identity as Spiders.

Both men had committed themselves to creating business solutions to fulfill the unmet needs of the Congolese — Evans through a business model, Hulley through investing international aid in the private market. Adam Smith International provided goal-based funding and in-country expertise to make the venture less risky; d.light brought more than a decade of successful solar business acumen honed on four continents.

The men also had something else in common: a drive to succeed made only stronger by challenges set before them. And in Congo, where electricity is concerned, the challenges are great.

Most customers with access to electricity are in urban areas. But just because a building is connected to the electrical grid doesn't mean you have light at the flip of a switch. If you're fortunate and wealthy, your house or business or



“You have to want to discover, learn about people, and hear what people themselves have to say about their own country, their culture, what they would want out of the development process.”

hotel is connected to a generator that kicks on when the utility’s power goes out. Some have relatively stable power, while others lose it daily. In some neighborhoods, residents may go without power for an entire month.

It’s not a matter of natural resources. The Congo River basin generates enough energy to power much of Africa, but political and financial challenges keep hydropower from reaching its potential. There are the crumbling infrastructure of the current transmission lines and the high cost of running new ones. Inconsistent billing and sporadic service result in unpredictable revenues for the energy delivery sector. Much of the lush, rugged countryside is difficult to access to run lines for rural customers.

Reliable power, in urban and rural locations, has the potential to save lives, from refrigeration of vaccines to reducing the need to burn fuels indoors, which results in pollution and lung disease.

“Access to power is huge for students to study at night, for shops to stay open in the evening, to replace more expensive and, in some cases, dangerous kerosene oil sources of lighting,” said Hulley, who shared stories of hospitals losing power mid-operation.

Electricity is sometimes called the commodity of commodities, Evans said. Without it, you can’t maximize productivity or diversify businesses. A Congolese entrepreneur who wants to start a bakery can’t build a reliable business if the ovens don’t heat up. A small shopkeeper can’t expand into a grocer if her produce will spoil. And students who want to study after dark to advance their education cannot work if it’s too dark to read words on the page.

A country with power can encourage entrepreneurship and innovation. Connect enough people with solar, Hulley believes, and you could even move the needle on Congo’s gross domestic product, a needed boost for the



*Clockwise from top:
d.light customers
at home; Evans
(right) in Nairobi,
Kenya; Hulley
(right) on a USAID
trip in the Demo-
cratic Republic
of Congo*

fourth-poorest nation in the world, according to World Bank data. Adam Smith International's goal is to put solar in 1 million Congolese households by the end of 2020 to raise the GDP per capita by 10% per year, putting an extra \$50 in the hands of each household each year. Investing in d.light became one of Adam Smith's tools for making change on this scale.

ROOTS IN RICHMOND

Evans came to UR in 2001 to study cello performance with Nick Tzavaras of the Shanghai Quartet, which was in residency with the music department. But Africa got in the way.

He enrolled in a class with professor Carol Summers, a professor of history whose research on modern Africa challenges students to open themselves to new interpretations.

"I tend to like to explore — and to get students to explore things that I don't fully understand," Summers said. "That could be something like, 'How did modern Africa come to be?' And it's a really hard question."

Evans, who credits Summers as a catalyst for his international work, decided he wanted to explore the question firsthand and made arrangements with Summers that allowed him to trade class time for a month on the southern horn of Africa. "That's where I caught the bug," he said.

He went back about a year later, this time to Cameroon, where he spent most of his junior year dual-enrolled

Just because a building is connected to the electrical grid doesn't mean you have light at the flip of a switch.

at the School for International Training. There he completed fieldwork on the socioeconomic impacts of the Chad-Cameroon pipeline while living with the chief of a small village near the coastal town of Kribi. It required an understanding of the historical context of development in Africa, which often followed a top-down model of distributing funds gained through the selling of natural resources or given by aid organizations. The outcomes, he found, sometimes did more harm than good. It was his first foray into understanding how an energy project could help people, and it formed his determination to be involved in bottom-up approaches that directly benefit the consumer.

Back in Richmond, he discovered all this travel interfered with the performance requirements for his major and changed his concentration to music theory and composition. It ended up being an excellent switch.

"Music is, and will likely always be, foundational to me, but early on at UR, classical performance started feeling like this selfish, isolated pursuit of perfection," said Evans, who double-majored in international relations. "I wanted to help drive more central, positive impacts on people's lives."

He went on to earn an MBA at INSEAD in 2012 and now spends his time understanding consumers and developing broad-based growth strategies for an employer whose products have already offset a carbon footprint equivalent to the annual carbon emissions of the countries of Kenya and Uganda.

"Helping to get renewable energy to families that would have otherwise never have had electricity in their homes — that's a powerful thing to see," Evans said.

Hulley, who is from Northhampton, Massachusetts, graduated the year before Evans arrived, so the two never met on campus. Hulley said he quickly realized that history was not the right major for him, and he gravitated toward the Robins School of Business. His senior year, a course in economic development with professor Jonathan Wight opened up his eyes to the possibilities of microcredit.

"That's what I was looking for, to use my degree from the business school for a good social end," said Hulley, who moved to Congo in 2004 to work with microfinance non-profit Hope International.

In class, Wight said he starts by saying that there are no easy fixes in international development, that successes in one country can't necessarily be replicated in another. It takes a smart, humble learner to enter a developing market and make a difference.

"You have to want to discover, learn about people, and hear what people themselves have to say about their own country, their culture, what they would want out of the development process," he said, "rather than adopting

ABOUT THE DRC, ITS INFRASTRUCTURE, AND ITS UNTAPPED POTENTIAL

DRC is the **11th-largest** country in the world in land mass. It is the size of the U.S. east of the Mississippi River.

The UN estimated its 2019 population was **87 million**, making it the world's 16th-most populated country.

The UN projects it will have the world's **fourth-fastest-growing population** through 2050. The UN projects that in 2100, its population will be the **world's sixth-biggest**, behind India, China, Nigeria, the U.S., and Pakistan.

It has one of the **lowest rates of electrification** in the world. The rate nationwide is just **9%**. In rural areas, it's **1%**. In urban areas, it's **19%**.

According to USAID, the five "**biggest issues and bottlenecks**" to electrification are

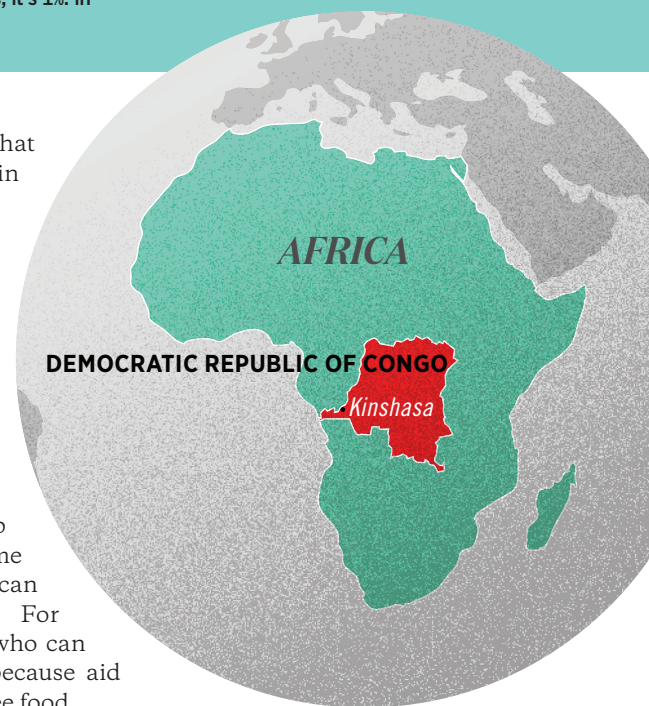
- GOVERNANCE.
- ELECTRIC UTILITY PERFORMANCE.
- ABSENCE OF A REGULATORY AGENCY.
- ABSENCE OF A RURAL ELECTRIFICATION AGENCY.
- HIGH TAXES, VAT, AND IMPORT DUTIES.

With technology like small-scale solar power, companies like d.light are **trying to leapfrog rather than fight** many of these obstacles.

a development process that comes from a blackboard in Richmond, Virginia."

Hulley's work in Congo builds business-sector solutions for social needs by breaking what he calls a habit of dependency. For good reasons — natural disasters, famines, wars — nonprofits and government organizations enter markets to provide goods and services to help people rebound from extreme loss. But good intentions can undercut local progress. For example, take the farmer who can no longer make a living because aid agencies are giving away free food.

Instead, advisers should offer resources to empower local communities to solve their own problems, Hulley said. "Part of it is building up local businesses while you're doing that, creating sources of income that will be more sustainable," he said.



Hulley now works for the United States Agency for International Development on its largest environmental project, the Central African Regional Program for the Environment. As a private-sector adviser, he works with companies, associations, and nongovernmental organizations to come up with innovative ways to reduce environmental threats, such as developing businesses that offer solar alternatives to charcoal cooking, which depletes the forests and pollutes indoor air.

For example, he described a new venture developing products from locally grown cacao and chia seeds. That progress was happening just 5 kilometers from the site of attacks leading to thousands of displaced people.

“You have to find intelligent ways to take some risks and find out how to get the price down in order to be a part of the story of turning the page and breaking the cycle of chronic instability and moving toward a period of more stability,” he said.

NEW LEAPS OVER OLD HURDLES

Hulley and Evans are part of a global push to bring electricity to the estimated 1.2 billion people worldwide without access to it. Their success in bypassing traditional means of electrification — power plants, transmission lines, wires, poles, and meters — is interwoven with other creative solutions that have also leapfrogged traditional methods of implementation, thanks to recent innovations.

Chief among these is the mobile phone. Phone communication — once also dependent on wires, poles, and the manpower to install and maintain the system — is now proliferating in Africa thanks to some of the same reasons solar power is now more affordable and accessible — lower prices on silicon needed for phone hardware and solar cells, better battery technology, and competition among companies that have led to improvements in products and services, Evans said.

Hulley remembers when he first arrived in Congo in 2004. “All landlines that had existed from the colonial period were basically destroyed by that time,” he said. There were one or two cell phone companies, and while internet access was nonexistent, people could call and text, sharing information in ways never before possible.

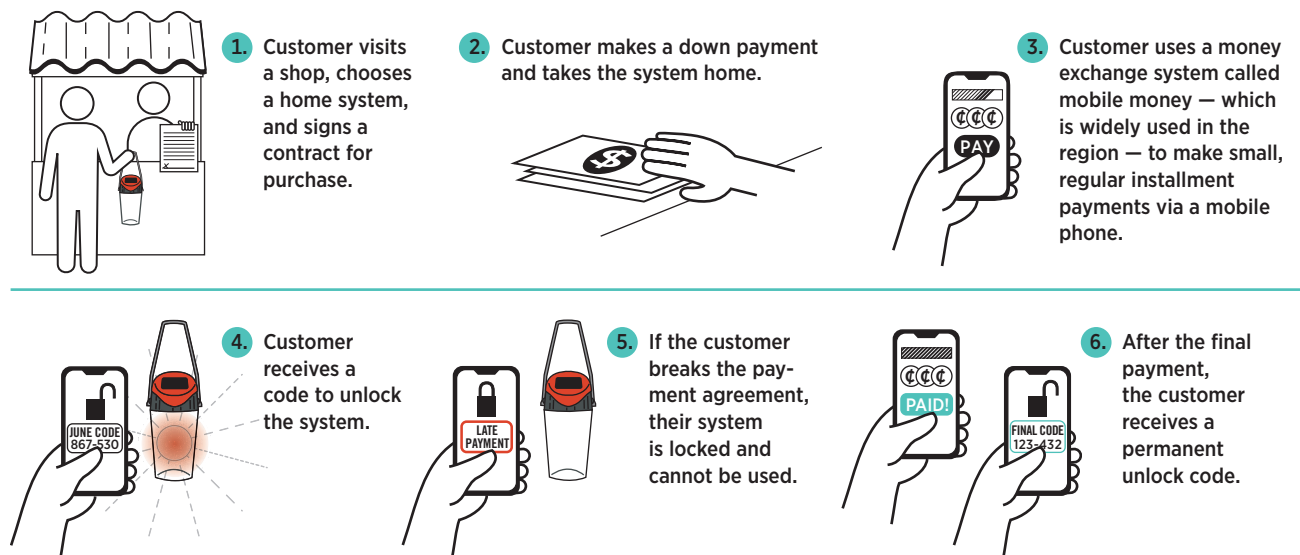
Fast forward to today in Kenya, where Evans is based. There, 90% of people have access to cellular service. This means they also have access to mobile money in a nation where ATMs are rare. It’s one of d.light’s largest solar markets.

Mobile money leapfrogs brick-and-mortar lending institutions, reducing the cost of doing business. And Evans said it opens up opportunity at higher levels of the solar product line: A \$300 loan for a home solar system is such a large sum for a family that a traditional bank would consider it too risky, so d.light offers its own mobile financing system to assist its customers.

“It helps us deliver modern energy services to some of the most underserved parts of the world without losing our shirts.”

PAY-GO: HOW IT WORKS

Most consumers in the DRC lack access to a formal banking system and lines of credit. Companies, including d.light, are using a system called pay-go — short for pay-as-you-go — as an alternative way to provide credit for products that consumers cannot afford up front.



“It helps de-risk investment,” Evans said, putting on his economist hat. “It helps us deliver modern energy services to some of the most underserved parts of the world without losing our shirts.”

Mobile technology also offers a safeguard to the lenders. Don’t pay your bill? Your solar system — which may also include a mobile phone charging station — is digitally connected to the lender and can be shut off from a distance by the loan officer. Paying on time means borrowers don’t have to walk to the next town to charge their phones.

Even in Congo, where mobile phone access is available to only 40% of the population, a pay-as-you-go, or pay-go, mobile loan system reduces risk to the solar companies.

Doing business in emerging markets tends to be relatively more expensive and way riskier than in developed markets,” Evans said. “But generally speaking, the more ingrained mobile money is in a country, the easier it will be for pay-as-you-go solar companies to scale.”

When customers repay small loans for solar home systems, they are getting more than just light. They are also demonstrating that they are trustworthy borrowers.

“Once you have the pay-go system running, you’re building a credit history,” Hulley said. “As long as you pay well, we see companies that then start lending money for other things.”

Families begin to purchase larger solar kits and add-ons like a television or radio. They have credit to access loans for a gas stove to replace an open fire for cooking.

“I saw one company that was doing bicycles,” Hulley said. “They can’t shut the bicycle off if you don’t pay, but they can still shut your light off. You want your light all the time, right? It creates an alternative way of delivering financial services to customers who don’t have what we have in the West, which is a financial information infrastructure.”

And technology and ingenuity are continuing to offer ways to surmount the challenges. Drone technology is being used to leapfrog the poor transportation infrastructure to deliver critical medical equipment or home solar systems. More and more, the solutions are being developed and implemented by the Congolese.

“We’re starting to see now things like app development competitions and digital academies starting, recognizing that the human capital to drive this is needed and is wanted by a lot of youth in Congo, which is a very young country,” Hulley said.

In many ways, to see the development in Congo is to get a glimpse into the history of the United States 50 to



200 years ago, Evans said, when business and government were figuring out how to best serve their people. And as a student of history, he finds the pace of current innovation fascinating.

“Drawing on lessons learned while studying and working in developed economies and figuring out how to apply those lessons within emerging markets, especially sub-Saharan Africa, has motivated me for years,” Evans said. “You have to be careful not to force NYC thinking onto developing world contexts. But what’s genuinely inspiring is when you find constructive ways of blending something you’ve learned in a boardroom with the ideas of, say, a local entrepreneur in Kinshasa. For me, those moments are what changes Africa from a place often viewed as antiquated into something that can be way ahead of its time.”

Hulley has some additional motivations — four of them. They are the children he has with his wife, Hortense, who is Congolese.

“Looking for opportunities in the face of a lot of the challenges is often driven not by signs today that things are going to be easier than yesterday but by a desire to see a country here that my kids will be proud of,” he said.

And it’s on its way. The partnership the Richmond alumni formed has created a solar industry that is graduating from focusing on single-light systems to those that power homes and businesses. It’s another step in their goal to change daily life in Congo — and the nation’s public image — from one of turmoil and inaccessibility to one of light and success. ✨

Michelle Tedford is a writer and editor who writes frequently about business, engineering, and international development.

President Barack Obama talks with d.light co-founder Sam Goldman while touring the Entrepreneur Summit in Nairobi, Kenya, in 2015.



Armed drones? Driverless cars? Rampant digital tracking of every minute of our lives? Technological upheaval isn't slowing down for COVID-19. The good news is that we've got more experience handling tech-driven change than we might think.



By Caroline Kettlewell | Illustrations by Cathryn Virginia

Experts at UR offer a reassuring invitation to pause, take a deep breath, and recognize that the most important choices about new technology are still ours to make.

The website's name is unequivocal, its user agreement refreshingly transparent and to-the-point. At WeSellYourData.com, "You give us your data and we sell it," the homepage declares. And, just to be clear, "In return for your data, you receive nothing."

Ridiculous! Who would do that?

Which of course is exactly the point of WeSellYourData, which is not actually a business and doesn't really sell your data. It is instead the work of California artist and software engineer Sarah Dapul-Weberman, and its intent is to make transparent what has become a ubiquitous feature of 21st-century life in America: the wholesale harvesting of our personal data for corporate ends.

For Richmond Law students in associate professor Rebecca Crootof's law and technology course, WeSellYourData is one item encountered in the first week of a syllabus that through journal articles, op-eds, cartoons, news items, critical analyses, law review pieces, and more offers — depending on your perspective — either an intellectually engaging examination of "how the legal system responds to technological change" or a nightmarish descent into an Orwellian hellscape of ever-watching drones, autonomous robo-weapons, and a future ruled by faceless algorithms and the relentless scrutiny of our every word and movement.

But is that the inevitable trajectory of our future? It's easy to feel these days that technology is consuming us. Our lives are mediated by screens and devices and passwords and portals and apps and platforms. It's a wonderful world of abundant information, instant communication, and crowd-funded generosity. It's also a terrible world of vengeful Twitter mobs, massive data security breaches, and rampant disinformation. Gene editing holds the promise of fighting dreaded diseases. Autonomous vehicles will save us from highway carnage. But the robots are coming for our jobs, the phishers are stealing

our passwords, the bots are subverting our elections, Google is getting our medical records, and even Jeff Bezos had his phone hacked.

Innovation, opportunity, and global connection? Or disruption, division, and dystopia? When the answer is definitely both, neither, or who knows, it's the uncertainty that unnerves us.

"What scares people is that this technology is shifting our foundations in life," says Jory Denny, an assistant professor of computer science whose research includes artificial intelligence and robotics. "It alters our current existence, and anything that pushes us out of our comfort zone is problematic."

IT'S ALWAYS ABOUT THE TROLLEY

But then, that's probably also how people felt when those terrifying horseless carriages began careering through the streets at breakneck speeds of 20 mph at the dawn of the 20th century.

As Crootof points out, the questions new technologies raise are not themselves new; they are the same kinds of questions we have always wrestled with in the face of technological change, questions that are often, she says, "about larger social goals that we as a society have not resolved."

Today we worry about invasions of privacy from drones and doorbell cameras, but in the late 19th century, the introduction of the small, affordable camera prompted two law students — Samuel Warren and future Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis — to write their famous 1890 argument for *Harvard Law Review*, "The Right to Privacy," in which they decried "instantaneous photographs" as having "invaded the sacred precincts of private and domestic life." We wonder how the rules of the road should apply to driverless autonomous vehicles, but it was problems created by the once-new technology of automobiles that prompted those rules: speed limits, mandatory seatbelts, insurance requirements.

As a scholar, Crootof has focused on the interrelationship between law and technology "and how the two foster

the development and evolution of each other,” she says. Her work considers how a society can choose to intervene to achieve social goals — and how, in fact, the law can provide a formal setting for working out larger social questions that technology brings into focus. In particular, she says, tort law — the part of civil law that determines whether one party should be held legally accountable for another’s loss or injury — is “remarkably adaptive and a space for legal innovation in response to new technologies.”

Crootof explains that early tort law focused on strict liability, where the cause of a harm was clearly and directly attributable to a specific defendant, and the parties to a case usually knew each other. But then the industrial revolution led to what Crootof says was the first major revolution in tort law. With factory machines crushing workers, boilers exploding on steamboats, trains colliding, and streetcars running down pedestrians (“almost everything in tort law involves a trolley or a train,” jokes Crootof), the body count mounted even as the relationship between the injured party and the person responsible for the harm became less clear and direct. “The courts were flooded with cases in a way they had never seen before,” says Crootof.

These changes led to the development of a “negligence” standard, which shifted protection toward industry by requiring plaintiffs to prove that a defendant had acted without due care.

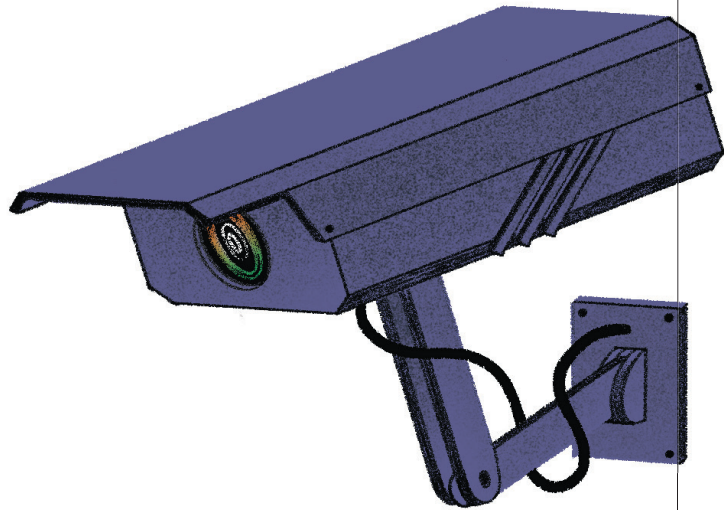
“It is harder to prove that someone acted unreasonably than to prove that they caused your harm,” says Crootof.

But a second revolution — products liability — developed during the 20th century as mass manufacturing and distribution further increased the distance between the producer of a product and its consumer. In what Crootof calls the “paradigmatic case” of an overpressurized glass Coca-Cola bottle that exploded in a waitress’s hand, the court ruled “that responsibility be fixed wherever it will most effectively reduce the hazards to life and health inherent in defective products that reach the market,” signaling a shift that placed more liability on companies and offered greater protection to individuals.

Now producers had to show that a product had been manufactured without defect. Products liability has come to include defects in design, manufacture, and information — the last of which you can thank for the exhaustive list of warnings that comes printed in every owner’s manual, because you can’t count on people to understand that it’s a bad idea to stick their hands in whirling blender or clamber up a precariously balanced ladder.

IT’S ONLY THE OUTLIERS

Each of these evolutions in tort law came during periods of significant social change fostered by technological developments, arguably not unlike the time in which we find ourselves now. And in such periods of upheaval — those unnerving shifts in our foundations that Jory Denny describes — it can seem as though technology is racing ahead of our ability to understand it, much less shape it and control its use.



INNOVATION,
OPPORTUNITY, AND
GLOBAL CONNECTION?
OR DISRUPTION,
DIVISION, AND
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ANSWER IS DEFINITELY
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THAT UNNERVES US.

EVERY TRANSACTION ADDS DATA TO YOUR DIGITAL POINTILLIST PORTRAIT. ... BUT IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE THAT WAY.

But Crootof cautions against that perception. She points out, first, that most technological innovations are actually relatively small, incremental, and un concerning: manual can openers became electric can openers; wind-up clocks became electric became digital. Nobody is getting exercised over the advent of programmable coffee makers, and the introduction of automated braking in our cars hasn't occasioned heated opinion pieces about the coming tech-fostered apocalypse.

But because you don't see fraught conversations around the large number of technological developments we take comfortably in stride, the small number of exceptions foster what Crootof calls a "false narrative" that the law can't keep pace with technological change.

"Most technologies are governed by most laws most of the time," she says. It is only the small number of "outlier cases" that she says "make headlines and perpetuate this mistaken belief."

What of those outlier cases then? These may well represent a significant challenge to



existing law, she agrees, and “expose some latent gaps and ambiguities in the law that need to get resolved.”

How much decision-making power do we want to hand over to algorithms? To what degree should social media platforms be held responsible for false or misleading content on their sites? Who gets to determine how our personal data is used, by whom, and for what purposes? Who is liable if a self-driving car causes an accident? If your home security system is hacked? If a facial-recognition application wrongly flags you?

These are uncertainties, Crootof believes, that the law eventually will evolve to address and resolve. But while they remain uncertain, so does the eventual balance of power between producers and consumers. Which way it tips will be ours to choose.

THE INTERCONNECTED, INCREASINGLY INVASIVE INTERNET OF THINGS

In “The Internet of Torts,” a piece published last year in *Duke Law Journal*, Crootof illustrates this point in relation to the rapid proliferation of an interconnected web of “smart” devices and technologies, collectively referred to as the “Internet of Things,” or IoT.

The IoT offers all manner of conveniences: You can use your phone to turn up the heat at home before leaving work; your pacemaker can upload data for your physician’s review while you are asleep in your own bed; you can hop a ride on one of those smart scooters that are popping up in communities across the country.

But as Crootof points out, aside from the privacy concerns these technologies raise, they also make it possible for businesses to exercise “remote interference” to control or even disable the devices if, for example, you miss a payment or refuse a software update.

It’s not a merely theoretical scenario, either. Among other such incidents, a maker of a “smart” garage-door system disabled a user’s access after getting a negative Amazon review, and Google bought out a small company producing smart-home hubs, then announced it would permanently “brick,” or render useless, the devices already in customers’ homes.

As Crootof notes, some of these cases of remote interference are mere annoyances, but others could potentially cause far greater harm.

“The remote deletion of your music file or e-book might frustrate you; the remote disabling of your security alarm, car, or implantable medical device could kill you,” Crootof writes.

If an algorithm incorrectly flags a late payment that triggers the remote disabling of your car, who, exactly, is to blame if you are left stranded? Remote interference falls into that area of uncertainty where it’s not clear how

or if existing consumer protection laws apply. In that uncertainty it is possible, Crootof argues, that the balance of responsibility could again move toward the technological producers and away from individual protections.

“We are at a crossroads,” Crootof writes, where either “we will come to accept that using IoT devices entails an assumption of risk,” or “law evolves to incentivize companies to better protect consumers.”

MY DATA, MY SELF

One of the more alarming points Crootof includes in her *Duke Law Journal* piece is a brief warning comparison between remote interference and another consumer issue we have thus far failed to prioritize: data privacy. “Law permitted social media and e-commerce platforms to collect and monetize personal data,” Crootof writes, “creating an environment where many believe personal privacy is endangered, if not already gone.”

Imagine that a company dispatched employees to rifle through your private correspondence, to follow you around minutely documenting your movements, conversations, relationships, interests, and interactions — and then shared that information with other businesses. Imagine if the government passed a law that required everyone to carry a device issuing a constant stream of information to be gathered and exchanged by unknown parties, or installed cameras and listening devices in our homes that could record all our conversations and activities.

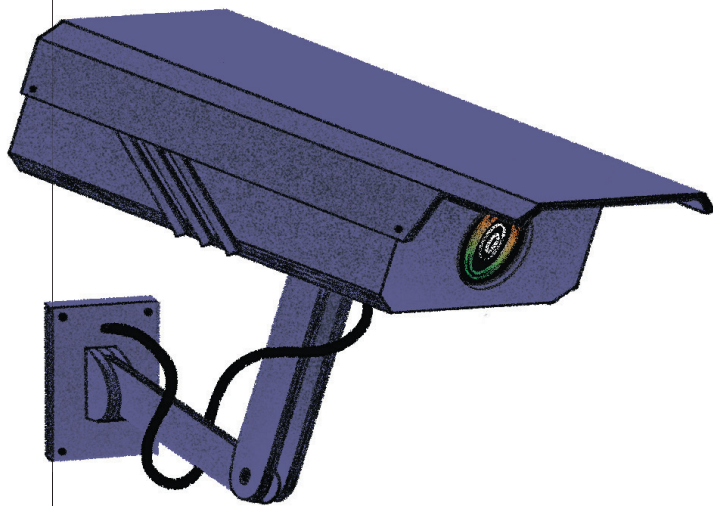
We would, of course, be rightly outraged at these invasions of our privacy.

And yet search engines, social media empires, mobile phone makers and service providers, app builders, and other technology companies presumptively arrogated to themselves a data-harvesting and -sharing norm that it is now literally impossible to opt out of, because none of us has any idea at this point who is collecting what data or how it is being shared and with whom. Send an email, order online, use your credit card, make a phone call, search the internet — every transaction adds data to your digital pointillist portrait.

In its recent “Privacy Project” series, *The New York Times* demonstrated how easy it is to identify and track specific individuals from supposedly anonymized data we surrender constantly from our mobile phones. “The greatest trick technology companies ever played was persuading society to surveil itself,” authors for the series wrote.

But Crootof cautions us not to conclude that this was the only possible outcome, taking issue with “this tech determinist rhetoric that ‘tech happened’ and now society has to scramble to catch up,” she says. “Our culture chooses how to use and how to shape a technology and how we let it affect us.”

Tech companies actively promoted their self-proclaimed status as visionaries, digital wunderkinds, pioneering “disruptors” whose products and services were so uniquely extraordinary and unprecedented that they



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couldn't — or shouldn't — be governed by the old rules and paradigms. So far, in the U.S., we have allowed this narrative to drive a largely hands-off approach to regulating these technologies.

But it doesn't have to be that way.

WHOSE “INFORMED CONSENT”?

For proof of that point, we need only look to Europe. “As soon as you step out of America, you realize that there are a lot of different ways of structuring a given technology, and that it is not predetermined,” Crootof notes.

Consider, for example, those ubiquitous “terms of service” and privacy policies you have to click to agree to when accessing apps or web pages. Companies have shielded themselves behind these agreements, arguing that they put consumers in control by allowing them to choose whether to consent to the terms outlined within the documents. But of course, anyone who has ever tried to wade through one of these policies and their dense thicket of fine print knows that “consent” is really more like “surrender.” When Richmond Law professor James Gibson analyzed the terms of service and other “consent” agreements he encountered in the purchase of four different computers, he found they averaged a total of nearly 75,000 words, or “just a tad fewer words than ... the first Harry Potter book.”

But in Europe, the General Data Protection Regulation provides extensive consumer privacy protections in all European Union countries, including both regulating how data can be collected, used, stored, or shared, as well as putting the burden on companies to spell out to consumers in a “concise, transparent, intelligible, and easily accessible way, in clear and plain language” just what companies are doing with their data within those parameters.

The difference between the American and European approaches amply illustrates the fallacy of tech determinism. If Facebook and Google can still manage to operate under the conditions of the European Union's GDPR, there is no reason they couldn't do the same in the U.S.

“Technologies are designed by humans,” says Crootof. “They can be designed to minimize accountability, and they can be designed to increase accountability.”

A DISTURBING #SELFIE FOR DIGITAL NATIVES

Of course, we can't make any of these choices if we don't even know they're ours to make. At the University of Richmond, many of the current undergraduates are part of the first cohort of true digital natives to enter college — a generation that has never known a world without Google, that has grown up on memes and follows and viral stars and Snapchat and hashtags, that is young enough to consider Facebook a fusty relic of their parents' generation. For most, surveilling themselves is as fundamental and unremarkable a feature of their daily lives as eating or sleeping.

In assistant professor of statistics Taylor Arnold's classes, “in general my students are not worried about data privacy,” he says, because they tend to think only in terms

“THAT IS OFTEN THE EXERCISE WHERE MOST OF THE KIDS GO, ‘OH, WOW.’ AND THEN WE TALK ABOUT HOW GOOGLE IS NOT THE ONLY COMPANY DOING THAT.”

of one piece of data at a time — a particular internet search or location check-in. So to raise their awareness, he assigns them to write down, every hour for a week, where they are and what they are doing.

“Almost nobody balks at it as an assignment,” he says. But when they return to class with a week’s record, “they come away realizing that when you have a whole week, it gives a very intimate picture of their lives and is very invasive,” he says, “that the sum is greater than the parts.”

Similarly, assistant professor of digital humanities Lauren Tilton asks her students to “plot every piece of technology they use to sign in to with their Gmail account” and then maps out this web on the classroom board so they can see for themselves what becomes apparent when all that data is merged together.

“That is often the exercise where most of the kids go, ‘Oh, wow,’” says Tilton. “And then we talk about how Google is not the only company doing that.”

Yet while Arnold and Tilton are cautious of the dangers from data-collecting technologies, they are no Luddites; rather, they are among a growing number of scholars actively engaging their work — and their students — with the perils and the possibilities, the ethics and opportunities, the questions posed and the discoveries offered, in a connected 21st-century world awash in data.

The two point out that “data” goes beyond what technology companies have vacuumed up over the past few decades. It is also a vast and rich trove of cultural resources — objects, records, films, photographs, and more — increasingly being digitized and made available to the public, particularly by museums, universities, archives, libraries, and other cultural institutions. How could all these materials be used for the benefit of humanities inquiry rather than simply as a tool for corporate profits? To help answer this question, Tilton and Arnold have created a project called the Distant Viewing Lab, which uses, develops, and shares computational tools and techniques to analyze visual culture and, in Tilton’s words, “get under the hood of these algorithms to understand what data they rely on and how they are built.

“There is an opportunity to open up our understanding of the past and the present and to imagine different futures,” she says.

THE IF-THEN STATEMENTS ARE UP TO US

Tilton and Arnold believe it’s vitally important for students in the humanities and technology to be “trained at this intersection” where each field informs the other. For

students interested in careers in law and politics, for example, “it is hard to regulate a technology you don’t understand,” points out Tilton, while those pursuing a future in technology would do well to consider the kinds of questions the humanities have always asked.

“What we try to do in our labs and our classes is to think about how our students can walk away with more of a toolkit to be able to think ahead and think across fields,” says Tilton.

As a computer scientist, Jory Denny agrees that “fields like the humanities pair really well with a computer science education.” He believes that fear about technologies arises at least in part from a lack of knowledge and understanding of how they work and what they actually can do.

“Computers are not intelligent,” he says. “They are really dumb, actually.” They do a few things very well, he explains, like finding correlations in huge sets of data. But a computer can’t determine whether that data itself is representative and comprehensive or if it is tainted by biases like deeply embedded structural racism. It takes a human perspective to consider those questions.

A broader and more diverse group of people educated both in the humanities and technology will assure that more of those questions get asked and that technological advances can be better harnessed to our benefit. Yes, drones can be used to spy on populations, but they are also flying medical supplies to remote communities. GPS technology can erode our privacy, but it also is proving vital in helping to fight wildfires, deliver disaster relief, and guide search-and-rescue teams. Pressing global issues like poverty, climate change, and health care will increasingly benefit from the power of data.

Crootof says that we are now at what she calls an “inflection point,” a moment when we still have time to choose the paths we want to follow — what technologies we incentivize, which are allowed to proliferate, how much accountability we will demand, and how rights, responsibilities, and protections will be allocated.

“There are moments of bounded opportunity to shape which way the law goes, and those opportunities close over time,” Crootof says. “It is what we as a culture decide to prioritize.” ✱

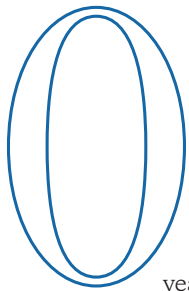
Caroline Kettlewell is a freelance writer based in Richmond, Virginia.



A HOMEGROWN --- *PANEL*

A GROUP OF AFRICAN AMERICAN RICHMOND LAW ALUMNI WITH DEEP LOCAL TIES AND INDIVIDUALLY DRIVEN BY PUBLIC SERVICE HAVE ASCENDED WITHIN RICHMOND'S LEGAL COMMUNITY — *ALL THE WAY TO THE BENCH.*

By Aggrey Sam | Photography by Jamie Betts



On a December afternoon, six Richmond Law alumni returned to campus and gathered in the school's Moot Courtroom.

Given their proximity in age (only four years at most separated them) and having frequently crossed paths in courtrooms and professional circles through the years, an easy camaraderie was evident. Some had become acquainted in the early stages of their legal careers, but others had known each other as classmates at various levels of education, through their families, and in one instance, literally since birth.

But the common thread shared by each member of this small cohort of African American Richmond Law alumni — Mary Malveaux, L'93; Linda Lambert, L'95; Brice Lambert, L'97; Randall Johnson, L'98; Vanessa Jones, C'97 and L'01; and Jacqueline McClenney, L'03 — are commitments to public service and to greater Richmond, the region in which they were raised.

As they distinguished themselves as attorneys, each was presented with the opportunity to further contribute to the community in a different role — as a judge. And while their individual paths to the bench have been different — whether they now sit on the state's Court of Appeals or courts in the city of Richmond and the adjacent suburbs of Chesterfield and Henrico counties, or whether they juggle private practice as a substitute judge — their devotion to serving the region has never waned.



At his July 2019 investiture ceremony, the **HON. BRICE LAMBERT, L'97**, was introduced by his law partner, someone who was familiar with both the breadth of his legal knowledge and formative childhood moments: his sister and law partner, **LINDA LAMBERT, L'95**.



While Brice left private practice to sit on the bench of the Richmond Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court and Linda became a solo practitioner, they both continue to work in the family business — local advocacy.

After each of their graduations from Richmond Law, they received continuing legal education by learning the ins and outs of the profession alongside their father, Leonard Lambert Sr., who founded Lambert & Associates. The elder Lambert — who, in 1973, became the first African American in the city to hold a judgeship when he was appointed a substitute judge for the court where his son now presides — taught the pair by example and through the respect he commanded in Richmond's legal and civic communities.

"Growing up, we never felt pressured to go into the profession," said Linda, who also serves as a substitute judge on the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court of Henrico County. "We knew our dad was a lawyer, but I don't think

“AS TIME GOES ON, *YOU REALIZE YOU’RE NO LONGER ONE OF THOSE YOUNG PEOPLE*, THAT YOU ARE NOW IN A POSITION WHERE *PEOPLE ARE LOOKING UP TO YOU*. AND I’M VERY CONSCIOUS OF THAT.”



PEER AND PREDECESSOR

Mentors who guided them along their respective journeys — whether law school professors, established attorneys and judges, or relatives in the profession — were a prominent theme for each of the judges. Seeing fellow Richmond Law alumni ascend to the bench before them was also described as inspirational.

The Hon. Marilyn Goss-Thornton, L’82, is one such example. Before they were colleagues on the bench of the Richmond Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court, Judge Brice Lambert tried cases in front of her.

until we got a little bit older and got a little more hands-on did we actually realize what he was doing professionally and for the public and for the community and just how engaged he was.”

But simply having a law degree and an established partner for a father didn’t pave the way to instant success when they started out as practicing attorneys.

“We still had to make a name for ourselves,” Brice said. “The name might have opened a door, but you still had to prove yourself because people aren’t going to want you to represent them unless you know what you’re doing.”

Over the years, the siblings have carved out their own reputations in their hometown, though the process isn’t without its challenges. For example, Linda’s dual roles of attorney and substitute judge are a balancing act, as Brice recognizes from his own experience.

“What’s difficult is you’re still a lawyer,” he said. “You have clients who are still waiting to hear from you, but you’re on the bench all day. You can’t just field phone calls, text messages, and emails all day. You’ve got to wait, and then when you get off, put your lawyer hat right back on. That’s when you realize, even though there’s stress and there’s pressure with being a judge, it’s very different than being in private practice. To me, [being a judge] is less stressful, just because of the pressure that clients can put you under.”

But even with different circumstances, their father’s ethos, particularly when it comes to preparation, has helped Brice find his way early in his full-time tenure on the bench.

“I’m here to serve the public,” he said. “The least I can do is show up on time and be prepared and make sure everyone feels like they had their day in court, which I think has to do with treating people with respect, regardless of why they’re there.”

After all, as Linda noted, “We are, in essence, a reflection of him. We don’t want to do anything to stain that reflection.”



The stories she heard as a little girl — about her grandfather, the president of a historically black college, participating in the civil rights movement — and witnessing her own father’s local activism inspired the **HON. JACQUELINE MCCLENNEY, L’03**.

“Their life stories are imprinted in the fabric of everything that I do,” said McClenney, a Richmond General

District Court judge.

What she took from her family lore, including that of her mother, an elementary school principal, was a devotion to her community. After college, McClenney threw herself into multiple civic endeavors in Richmond, including serving two terms on the city’s school board and chairing the board of Venture Richmond, a prominent community improvement organization.

But the primary way that she’s advocated for her hometown is through the legal profession. While she never planned to become a lawyer, McClenney now acknowledges that childhood memories of her father, Earl McClenney Jr., L’80, studying for the bar exam were likely a subconscious influence. The father-daughter Richmond Law alumni pair each became students after having launched professional careers.

“My father finished law school when I was 9,” said McClenney, an ordained minister who practiced criminal defense and represented abused and neglected minors before sitting on the bench. “I remember reading his bar books as a little girl.”

Her deep connections to the community mean some of the people she sees in her courtroom have a familiarity with her outside of the judicial system. While the in-court encounters don’t always come under the most pleasant of circumstances, McClenney is confident her background and reputation inspire confidence in the objectivity of her decisions.

“I want people to respect not me, but the position,” she said. “I hope when people cross that threshold, if they have a story, they’ll think, ‘She’s going to hear what I have to say.’”



Because she has a mother who was a pediatrician and a brother who also became a doctor, the **HON. MARY MALVEAUX, L'93**, refers to herself as the “black sheep” of her family. But if there was a catalyst for her chosen path, it was tied to her family.

Malveaux describes the journey of her aunt, whom she observed attend law school and become an attorney, as instrumental in her interest in the law, particularly criminal defense.

A Richmond Law externship with the Henrico County Commonwealth's Attorney's Office led to her first job out of law school. The reputation she built locally as a prosecutor and a defense attorney led to her becoming the first African American woman to serve on the county's General District Court in 2011 and eventually as its chief judge.

“I did not think about [becoming a judge] as I was practicing law until a couple of people who were older and more established asked if I'd ever thought about it,” she said. “It did not really enter my consciousness, so to speak.

“Once I started to think about it and I had other colleagues that did end up going to the bench, getting a little bit of a glimpse of that, I recognized it was a different way of practicing law.”

In 2016, Malveaux was elected to the Virginia Court of Appeals. Her priorities have shifted from hearing case after case and managing associated tasks to spending the majority of her time writing opinions and preparing to hear oral arguments alongside a panel of colleagues.

“It's really interesting and fun, an intellectually satisfying and interesting job, but it's different in terms of the pace,” she said. “It allows us to be able to step back, and you've got a little bit more luxury to really delve into cases that we're reviewing.

“I think behind the curtain is different from what you see in front of the curtain.”



The **HON. RANDALL JOHNSON JR., L'98**, never intended to follow in his late father's footsteps. Not during his childhood on Richmond's South Side, not when he first enrolled in college, and not even while he was working as a prosecutor in the Commonwealth's Attorney's Office in Richmond.

But looking back, he realizes he was being prepared for his future all along.

“Growing up in his house, I knew the lifestyle of a judge,” he said of his father, a civil rights attorney who became a Richmond Circuit Court judge. “Just intuitively, I knew what you should and shouldn't do because you have to conduct yourself in a certain way off the bench if you're a judge. So when I became a judge, it wasn't a shock to me.”

Later, as a young prosecutor in the city, Johnson sought his father's counsel about his trial performances.

“In between cases, if I knew he was off the bench, I would go back and we would sit almost on a daily basis, talk about things, and he would know how I did in court sometimes where I didn't,” said the younger Johnson, who was appointed a Henrico Circuit Court judge in 2019 after serving as the chief judge of the juvenile and domestic relations court in the same county.

“The other judges would say, ‘Yeah, I just had Randy in court, and he messed this up,’ or, ‘He did well in this.’”

From those conversations, Johnson, who also teaches lawyering skills as an adjunct professor at Richmond Law, gleaned the value of passing down knowledge to the next generation.

“You look up to these people, and as time goes on, you realize you're no longer one of the young people, that you are now in a position where people are looking up to you,” he said. “And I'm very conscious of that.”



As a young woman working in administrative and paralegal roles at various law firms, the **HON. VANESSA JONES, C'97 AND L'01**, had an epiphany: “After observing and working with several lawyers, I believed I could work in the same capacity. So, I decided to further my career and fulfill my purpose.”

She enrolled in Richmond's University College (now the School of Professional and Continuing Studies), taking classes in paralegal studies at night while continuing to work full time during the day. After earning a bachelor's degree, Jones, now a juvenile and domestic relations court judge in the Richmond suburbs of Chesterfield County and Colonial Heights, became a student at Richmond Law.

“When I entered Richmond Law, I immediately noticed that there were other nontraditional students with different educational backgrounds and work experiences,” she said. “In my opinion, it was beneficial and advantageous to have worked in the legal community and to have had a basic knowledge of the law.”

At Richmond Law, Jones' involvement in the *Journal of Law and Technology*, mentoring from faculty, and a judicial clerkship with the Henrico County Circuit Court only added to her preparation. She poured herself into the legal profession, learning the ins and outs of civil and criminal law, including with the Commonwealth's Attorney's Office in Richmond, making lasting professional connections.

She embarked on a career as a family law attorney, working for more than a dozen years in the field before she was unexpectedly approached about becoming a judge. With the knowledge that she'd be hearing cases similar to those she tried — involving issues such as child custody, child and spousal support, and domestic violence — Jones ultimately decided, “I can provide justice in a different way.”

Given the unconventional route she took to the bench, her rationale was fitting. ✨

Aggrey Sam is the editor of Richmond Law magazine.

A SPIDER, THROUGH AND THROUGH

The only double Richmond alumnus of the group, Jones remains involved with both the School of Professional and Continuing Studies (SPCS) and Richmond Law.

As an undergraduate, she received SPCS' Jean Proffitt Service Award, and in 2015, she was presented with its Gibb Family Distinguished Alumni Award. Jones also serves as a member of the Richmond Law Alumni Board and holds a similar role with the SPCS Dean's Ambassador Circle.

“I believe that I have a responsibility to reach back to current students and help the next generation excel,” she said.



Collage by Katie McBride, photograph of
de Marre and Mulberg by Margo Sugarman

Mensch on the bench

(AND THE MOUND TOO)



Two Spiders expect to compete for Team Israel at the Tokyo Olympics, now slated for 2021. Pitcher Jonathan de Marte, '15 & GC'17, and assistant baseball coach Nate Mulberg are part of a team full of American expats writing an unlikely, joyful new chapter in Israeli sports history.

By David Driver

AFTER GRADUATING FROM RICHMOND IN 2017,

Spider pitcher Jonathan de Marte (left) signed to pitch professionally for an independent baseball team in the Frontier League. He was with the team again the following year in Normal, Illinois, when his manager, Billy Horn, approached him about playing in a winter league.

But de Marte, who grew up in a Jewish home in suburban New York, had a larger vision that went beyond his own individual career.

"My immediate response was I wanted to play for Israel," de Marte recalls. "He told me, 'I am friends with Gabe Kapler and will see what I can do.' The next day Kapler got back to me."

Kapler, a former big leaguer and now the manager of the Los Angeles Angels, had been a coach with Team Israel in 2012. Soon after, de Marte heard from Eric Holtz, the manager of Team Israel, who contacted him about the possibility of joining the team. Both were from Westchester County near New York City, and de Marte played against the Holtz's oldest son as an amateur.

"I followed his entire career," Holtz said. "I assumed he was Italian with that last name. He wants the ball every time."

That contact put into motion de Marte's role helping the Israel national team qualify for the 2020 Olympics in Japan this summer.

"I literally started the process the next day. There was a lot of paperwork," said de Marte, who had to become an Israeli citizen to join the team. "In the fall of 2018, I made my first trip to Israel. I went back to Israel to get citizenship, myself and nine other guys (on the team). Some of those guys are still on the team."

He is a member of Team Israel along with Nate Mulberg (right), an assistant coach and recruiting coordinator for the Spiders under head coach Tracy Woodson.

"I think it is a great opportunity for both of them," said Woodson, who as a player won a World Series ring with the Dodgers in 1988.

Mulberg, a former standout at Division III Rochester, is part of the coaching staff for Israel. Mulberg also connected with Holtz to find a spot on Team Israel.

"It is one of those stories of right place at the right time and doing the right thing," Mulberg said. "I really didn't have an ulterior motive or special agenda in my interactions with people other than trying to do the right thing."

Being part of the historic team goes beyond the diamond. While playing for Richmond, de Marte remembers watching Israel in the World Baseball Classic on television while the Spiders were in Texas for games in 2017. He watched the games with his mother and told her he would love to be part of Team Israel.

in which de Marte pitched. Some players from the 2019 Richmond squad had been de Marte's teammates.

Both Mulberg and de Marte grew up knowing about Jewish baseball heroes such as Hank Greenberg and Sandy Koufax. Greenberg hit 331 homers in the majors between 1930 and 1947 and was elected to the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1956. Koufax, the best pitcher of his generation while with the Brooklyn and then the Los Angeles Dodgers, refused to pitch in the first game of the 1965 World Series since it fell on Yom Kippur. Koufax was



"A LOT OF US HAVE SIMILARITIES FROM THE RELIGION AND GROWING UP IN A JEWISH HOUSEHOLD. I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN PROUD OF BEING JEWISH."

"A lot of us have similarities from the religion and growing up in a Jewish household," de Marte said. "I have always been proud of being Jewish."

On the mound for Team Israel in the 2019 European Championships in September 2019, the 6-foot-1 de Marte went 1-0 with an ERA of 0.00 in three outings and recorded the win over Germany.

"Beating Germany was incredible," de Marte said. "One of the best games of my life. The last time a team (from Israel) was in Germany was in 1972. Obviously that game meant a lot more than a baseball game. Everyone knows what happened in 1972. That win was like a championship in its own."

Then at the Africa/Europe 2020 Olympic qualifier in Italy later that month, he again did not allow a run over four innings out of the bullpen while recording seven strikeouts with one hit and no walks allowed.

"With every single win we were one step closer to the Olympics," he recalls. "We have the horses to do this. I got the win against Italy. That put us one win from the Olympics. We lost to the Czech Republic and came back and beat South Africa to qualify for the Olympics."

The team became the first Israeli team to qualify for the Olympics since 1972, when a Palestine terrorist group killed 11 members of the Israel Olympic team and a West German police officer during the Munich games.

Woodson said the Spiders followed the games overseas

elected to the Hall of Fame in 1972 — six years after winning 27 games in his last season in the major leagues.

Despite the legacy of Greenberg and Koufax — and recent Jewish big leaguer Shawn Green and others — Israel has very little history with baseball at the international level. It has been decades since Greenberg and Koufax played, so current Israeli fans may need a primer: The current webpage of the Israel Baseball Association has a link to "What is baseball?"

Mulberg, though, knew that Jewish baseball history.

"I grew up in Cherry Hill, New Jersey. There are a lot of Jewish people in that area," Mulberg said. "I grew up in a conservative household and went to Hebrew school several days a week. My mom and sister keep kosher; I don't. I went to Jewish summer camp. Baseball and Judaism were the two biggest influences growing up."

Mulberg remembers hearing about Ron Blomberg, a Jewish player in the 1970s for the New York Yankees and a member of the National Jewish Sports Hall of Fame.

He told his father about Blomberg, and they had the former big leaguer come to a Jewish book festival in Cherry Hill and were able to spend time with him when Mulberg was a high school freshman in 2006-07.

In high school, Mulberg almost went with a U.S. team to Israel to take part in the Maccabiah Games. Among his teammates was Max Fried, who made his major league

debut in 2017 with the Atlanta Braves.

"I got very sick with mono right before we left. I didn't get to go. The team won gold," Mulberg recalls. "My dream was always to play Division I, but it was not in the cards. I did not have the size or speed or strength they look for."

He also wanted strong academics. He found them at the University of Rochester, which was nationally ranked in baseball just before he got there. Mulberg was a four-year starter there and after graduating in 2014 knew he wanted to get into coaching.

He was an assistant at Division III Franklin & Marshall in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and then at Division I Bucknell of the Patriot League in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania.

"There I was introduced to Holtz, whose son had played at Bucknell," Mulberg said.

Holtz was named Team Israel manager in 2018 just after Mulberg had finished the spring season with the Spiders. Holtz wanted to know if Mulberg knew of any players he would suggest for Team Israel — and Mulberg told Holtz about de Marte.

Then Mulberg became part of Team Israel as well. "We had an instant connection there. He identified with my story," Mulberg said of Holtz. "He felt very sad I didn't get to go to Israel. That was a very painful part of when I was in high school, my junior year."

These days Mulberg also is involved with Go4theGoal, a nonprofit with a mission to help better the lives of children with cancer.

Woodson said communication is Mulberg's strength as a coach. "He knows how to connect with people. People trust him. That is a great thing to have," said Woodson.

There was more good news for de Marte in late February when he signed a minor league contract with the Chicago Cubs and reported to spring training in Arizona. He hoped to begin the season at the Double-A level, with assurances from the Cubs that they wanted him to be part of the Olympics even it meant missing minor league action.

It was his first contract with an affiliated team after playing in three independent leagues: Frontier, Atlantic and Canadian-American Association.

During spring training, de Marte worked out with several Cubs with Major League experience, including Kyle Hendricks, Ben Zobrist, and Javier Baez.

"Just seeing the way they carry themselves and go about their business every day, you know they know they are among the best there are," de Marte said.

But then he was also teammates on Team Israel with several big leaguers, including Danny Valencia, who last played in the majors with the Baltimore Orioles in 2018.

Being with the Israeli national team goes beyond baseball, de Marte said. "You feel the connection and the common denominator." *

David Driver has covered the Atlantic 10 Conference and professional baseball for 25 years and is the sports editor of the Daily News-Record in Harrisonburg, Virginia.

SPIDER OLYMPIANS

De Marte and Mulberg will be the fifth and sixth Olympians in Spider history. Here's a look at Richmond's previous competitors:



HILLARY TUWEI, R'80

Tuwei was chosen to run the 3,000-meter steeplechase for Kenya at the 1976 Montreal Olympics and the 1980 Moscow Olympics but never did because of geopolitics. In 1976, Kenya boycotted the games to protest other nations' participation in sporting events in Apartheid-era South Africa. In 1980, Kenya joined the U.S.-led boycott protesting the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

Tuwei was Kenya's track and cross country champion from 1974 to 1976 and won the Richmond Marathon in 1979. Running as a Spider, he was an All-American seven times for three different events, set multiple program records, and is a member of the Athletics Hall of Fame.



SOSTHENES BITOK, R'83

Bitok competed in the 10,000-meter men's races for Kenya at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics. He ran the fastest semi-final time and finished sixth in the final.

At Richmond, he set at least 13 school records for various indoor and outdoor distances and set a new 1,500-meter record at the Colonial Relays hosted by William and Mary. He was also part of Richmond's 2-mile relay team at the 1982 NCAA Championship.



EDWIN KOECH, R'85

Koech competed in 800-meter men's races, also for Kenya at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics. He ran the fastest overall time in the quarterfinals and finished in second place in his semifinal behind the eventual gold medalist. In the final, he finished in sixth place after setting the pace for the first 600 meters of the race.

As a Spider, he set school records in eight indoor and outdoor events, two of them relays that he ran with Bitok.



SARAH MERGENTHALER CHIN, '01

Mergenthaler competed in sailing for Team USA in the 2008 Beijing Olympics. She took part in the two-person dinghy competition, placing 11th. She was also an alternate for the 2004 Athens Olympics.

She emerged as one of the country's top female sailors after standout soccer and track-and-field careers at Richmond. As a student, she broke a 20-year-old record in javelin and helped lead women's soccer to national rankings and the Sweet 16 of the NCAA tournament.

“
*Knowledge
of this
cannot be
hidden.*
”

In 1910

the University of Richmond bought the land on which it now sits to build its future. But this land also has a past, one that the university is for the first time beginning to fully study, understand, and, for reasons you'll read, memorialize.

It is a complicated history with shifting property lines and shifting values that are at turns typical and tragic. This land, where today we work to build a more hopeful, inclusive future, has also been a site of enslavement, of resilient efforts against the headwinds of Jim Crow, and of redevelopment practices that do not align with our standards today.

An enduring, potent symbol of this complicated legacy lies today under a triangular patch of grass and bushes between Puryear Hall and the university's steam plant. Evidence strongly suggests that some of the enslaved people who worked this land before it became UR's campus were buried at this spot. We now know the eternal rest of many was shamefully disturbed by the development of the land for campus uses.

The university is now taking steps to mark, protect, and appropriately commemorate this burial ground and the history of enslavement on this land. The specific form that this memorialization will take has yet to be decided, and the complex history of this land is the subject of active discussion on campus and with community members, including members of the descendant community.

These steps of study, reflection, and action make up an ongoing effort to understand and convey a fuller and more accurate story of the university's history. They further UR's educational mission as a place that seeks knowledge and, with it, understanding of how best to live our values and pursue our shared future.

—By Matthew Dewald

The information that follows is derived from the research of Shelby Driskill, a student taking courses in the Master of Liberal Arts program of UR's School of Professional and Continuing Studies. She began her research as a student in the Master of Liberal Arts program under the guidance of visiting professor Luranett Lee and continued it under Lee's guidance as a research coordinator. In January, the university published it as a report titled "Knowledge of This Cannot Be Hidden": A Report on the Westham Burying Ground at the University of Richmond and shared it with the university community.



Land's history

The University of Richmond purchased the land on which campus now sits in 1910 and began classes here in 1914. The land's history stretches millennia before the university took ownership. In the centuries before European contact, it was home to multiple Native American tribes and linguistic groups. At the time of the British arrival, it was the territory of the Powhatan people.

Once this land came under the control of European settlers, it passed through a series of owners, was divided among them in changing ways, and was used for a variety of purposes until the university's purchase. The following are the broad outlines of the period up until university ownership.

PRE-CIVIL WAR ERA

The Westhampton and Richmond sides of campus were part of larger, privately owned plantations. Research by Driskill has definitively dated the presence of enslaved laborers on the 5,000-acre Westham plantation that contained the entire campus as far back as 1753, when the property was transferred from William Randolph to William Byrd III. The records of that transaction and multiple, subsequent records through 1865 indicate the widespread presence of enslaved laborers on the property until the end of the Civil War. The names of hundreds of enslaved people appear in these documents.

In the decades immediately before the Civil War, portions of the current university property were owned by

a man named Benjamin Green and members of his family. The family profited from a number of properties and business interests, including mining, milling, agriculture, and others. The 1860 slave census alone shows the family enslaving 128 people and "hiring" 53 people from other enslavers for work that likely occurred at various locations.

POST-CIVIL WAR ERA

Bankruptcy forced members of the Green family to give up property on the Westhampton side of campus in 1867. The family continued to hold the land on the Richmond College side until the turn of the century. Some of the family's former holdings became the site of neighbor-

hoods formed by newly emancipated African Americans, including areas called Zionsville, Burrell Town, and Westwood. The Westhampton side of campus, then called Westham Farm, went through a series of owners until its purchase by an African American benevolent association.

TRUE REFORMERS ERA

In 1897, the Richmond headquarters of an organization called the Grand Fountain of the United Order of the True Reformers purchased Westham Farm on the Westhampton side of campus.

The True Reformers were an African American mutual benefit association, locally under the leadership of a man named William Washington Browne. Among its other activities, the association operated a bank, a newspaper, an insurance agency, and a theater in downtown Richmond at a time when Virginia's Jim Crow state was entrenching itself with a new constitution that enshrined racial segregation, poll taxes, and other discriminatory measures. The True Reformers bought Westham Farm as part of a plan to open a home for the elderly and orphans.

As the True Reformers developed plans for this newly owned land, their ambitions collided with those of the Westhampton Park Railway Co., a white-owned streetcar railway company that owned much of what is now the Richmond side of campus after 1897. It bought the land as part of a plan to develop a park to increase ridership. Within a decade, the railway's park had failed, and the True Reformers had developed significant debt. In 1909, a group of businessmen bought both properties and incorporated the relocation of Richmond College in their plans to create a new neighborhood on the city's edge. A 1910 *Times-Dispatch* article reported the news of the developing residential plans with the headline, "Westham Becomes White Man's Settlement."

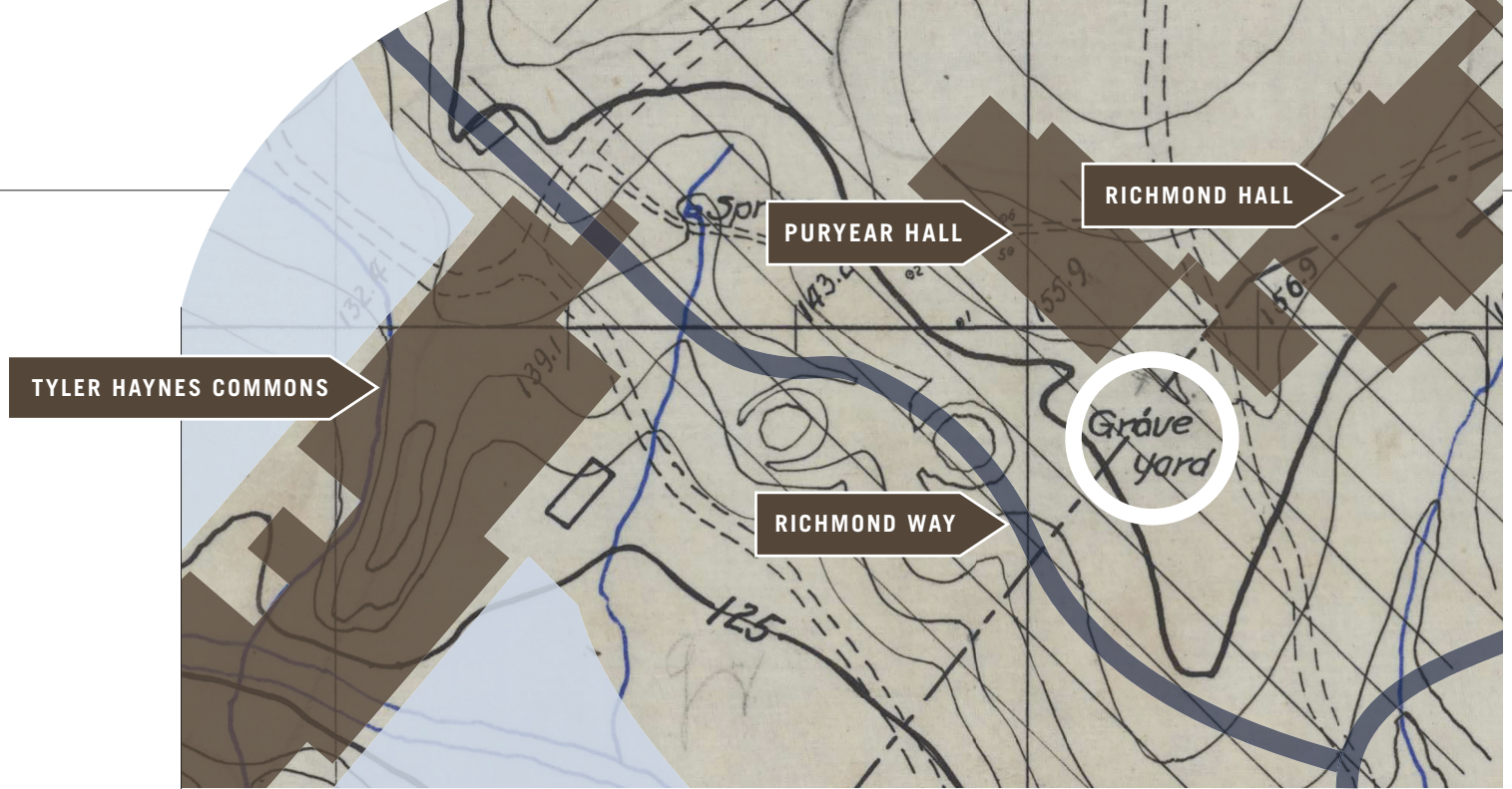
Enslaved people on this land

Historical evidence offers only glimpses of the lives of the enslaved people who lived and worked on this land. These glimpses come only via records, wills, advertisements, and other documents of the people who enslaved them.

The earliest enslaved person who has been identified was Robin, who was described in 1767 as having escaped from the Westham plantation when it was owned by Robert Carter Nicholas and Edward Ambler. By 1787, 44 enslaved individuals were named as held by the heirs of Nicholas and Ambler. An 1832 list details 55 men, women, and children who were enslaved by the Shapard family when they were about to be sold. In 1845, 122 enslaved people were named and valued when the Westham land was owned by the Read family.

The 1860 Federal Census Slave Schedule describes the Green family — who held numerous properties that eventually included the campus land — owning 128 people and "hiring" 58 more enslaved by others. The names of some of these individuals are recorded in newspapers, insurance documents, and deeds:

1843: John Wright, "hired" to Green, escaped along with his wife Lucy Roan who was "hired" to a boarding house; **1847:** Annica, purchased by Green at auction; **1854:** Washington, Stephen, Abram, William Pilcher, Edward, Monroe, Sam, Obey and Sugar Billy, named in the trial accounts of Washington, who was accused of burning down Green's barn and straw rick; **1856:** Joshua, enslaved by Green and accused of being in Richmond without a pass; **1857:** John, Dilcey, Eliza, Molly, Obey, Billy, Sugar Billy, Harry and Charles Carter, passed to Green's sole ownership after dissolution of his partnership with Edwin Walker; Moses, James, Silas, Paul, George Holmes, Albert, Anderson, Ben, Henry, Jefferson, Willis, Noah, David, Little Joe, Cary, Lucien, Mima, Maria, John, Old Joseph, Young Joseph, Frank, William, Joseph (child), Louisa, Ned, and Charlotte Kitty, transferred to Green and three others along with 1,151 acres of land (in 1861, 15 of these people would be transferred to the trust of Julia A. Green); **1858:** Polly Thomas or Polly and Thomas, in a death record appear as the parents of an unnamed infant, enslaved by Green; **1859:** Letty, enslaved and insured by Green; Issac, enslaved by Green and died of pneumonia in Powhatan County; **1861:** Moses, hired out by Green to William Conner; **1864:** William, attempted to escape his enslavement by Green by following the retreating Union soldiers after Dahlgren's Raid; Sam and Curtis, both enslaved by Green, and Jacob, hired to his use, accused of theft from a store adjacent to Green's Richmond stables; George and Peter, enslaved by B.W. Green Jr. and escaped his portion of the Green holdings at Westham; William, accused of theft and sentenced to 39 lashes and 39 more the following week; and Isaac, "hired" to Green and escaped from the Green farm



Burial Ground

One of the most significant results of Driskill's research was the presentation of ample evidence that a section of today's campus was used as a burial ground for enslaved people before the Civil War. The area of focus is a triangular patch of ground behind Puryear Hall that was part of plantation holdings before the Civil War. It came under the control of the True Reformers in 1897 and was the focus of attempts to gain ownership by the Westhampton Park Railway Co. Here are the broad outlines of what Driskill found.

EVIDENCE OF THE PRESENCE OF A BURIAL GROUND

Evidence emerged throughout the 20th century that the site was used as a burial ground. For example, in 1901, the Westhampton Park Railway Co. produced a topographic map that included the area and marked it "Grave Yard." Internal documents from the Olmsted Brothers, the landscape design firm, refer to it as a "negro burying ground." And in 1912, contractor Warren H. Manning reported to the university that his workers had discovered "at least 20" graves during grading work (photo, Page 44), likely to build what is now Richmond Way. "Knowledge of this cannot be hidden," he wrote as he proposed moving the graves to "some cemetery." Known records do not document the university's response.

University construction projects in 1947 and 1955-56 also revealed human remains at the site. In these latter instances, the university condoned the reburial of remains at undisclosed locations.

"This devaluing of human life and dignity conforms with

the long and painful history of dehumanizing enslaved persons," President Ronald A. Crutcher wrote not long after the university published Driskill's research. "The Board of Trustees and I are deeply saddened by these discoveries. We profoundly regret the desecration that took place on this ground and the silences in our historical narrative."

During the fall semester, the university hired experts to conduct a ground-penetrating radar survey of the area in order to determine whether any distinguishable graves remain at the site. The results of the survey, which was conducted in September, were inconclusive. The history of disturbances to the ground and the quality of the soil may have contributed to the result.

EVIDENCE OF WHO IS BURIED THERE

Evidence — such as the treatment of the graves in the 20th century, the location of the burying ground, and the hundreds of people enslaved on the land during the enslavement era — point to the high probability that the people buried at this site were enslaved people who worked on the land that is now the university's campus.

Driskill researched several alternate explanations, including that the graves are those of the families of the landowners; of African American laborers who worked on and lived near the land after the Civil War; of people connected with the True Reformers; or of Union soldiers killed in an 1864 skirmish. These scenarios are all very unlikely based on the historical evidence and contemporary burial practices. The most likely explanation is that the graves date from the time of enslavement and that the land was the burial site of people who were enslaved.

“Our story often is inspirational, but there are aspects of the past we have long ignored, including the significant history of the land on which our campus now stands.”

—PRESIDENT RONALD A. CRUTCHER



Memorialization

Shortly after the release of the report submitted by Driskill and Lee, Crutcher published an op-ed in the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*.

“Universities, like families, have histories that cry out for a fuller telling,” he wrote. “Our story often is inspirational, but there are aspects of the past we have long ignored, including the significant history of the land on which our campus now stands.”

In January, Crutcher announced the formation of the Burial Ground Memorialization Committee to engage campus and community members, including descendant communities, in discussions about the complex history of the land on which campus is now located. The committee is charged with making specific recommendations about appropriate memorialization of the burial ground and the land’s connections to enslavement, including a physical memorial. That work is ongoing.

The committee’s work is part of a wide-ranging university initiative called Inclusive History. Its charge is to examine, understand, and communicate our past more fully and inclusively. Since the beginning of the 2019–20 academic year, Laurant Lee has led institutional efforts to research the university’s history with an emphasis on slavery, segregation, and desegregation. Lee and Driskill’s report was one outcome of that work.

MORE INFORMATION

Far more detailed results of Driskill’s research appear in a report and a digital narrative. Driskill and Lee prepared the report, *“Knowledge of This Cannot Be Hidden”: A Report on the Westham Burying Ground at the University of Richmond*, as part of a one-year study of UR’s history. Driskill prepared the digital narrative, *Paths to the Burying Ground*, as part of her independent research and coursework under Lee and Nicole Maurantonio, professor of rhetoric and communications.

Many of the key findings about the location of historical properties and the burial site were informed by Driskill’s collaboration with SPCS student Douglas Broome. Broome also produced many of the maps that appear here and in Driskill’s research as part of an independent research project and coursework for the geographic information systems program under the guidance of the Digital Scholarship Lab’s Justin Madron.

Links to these resources, the charge of the Burial Ground Memorialization Committee, and other information about the university’s Inclusive History and Inclusive Excellence initiatives are available at president.richmond.edu/inclusive-excellence. The online version of this story, available at magazine.richmond.edu, contains additional links to information and some of the primary documents described here. ✱

ALUMNI

FIRST-PERSON



The Spider Career Expo “felt like a lifeline,” writes senior Chris Cassella.

The next step

How did I feel as a second-semester senior just back from winter break (and before the COVID-19 crisis hit)? Stressed. It was impossible not to think about life after college. Juggling the many responsibilities that come with being an active Spider was already not easy. Throw another ball into this juggling act — the job search — and it was getting even harder.

That’s why the internship and job prospects offered at the Spider Career Expo in February felt like a lifeline.

I arrived at a Queally Center annex nervous, but these nerves ended up being misplaced. Friendly recruiters at every table were eager to share their stories, both as Spiders and how the Expo helped them professionally when they were students.

I was surprised to see familiar faces from the not-so-distant past behind some of the tables. Old friends became new professional connections after short conversations. I felt

a sense of comfort, like someone was in my corner rooting for me to succeed. I walked away inspired to return as an alum to help the next generation of students.

Alumni have many opportunities to help current Spiders, and the Career Expo is one great way to get involved. Another is by participating in Spider Shadowing, which pairs current students with employers in their specific areas of interest for half-day or full-day job shadowing experiences during the winter and summer breaks. Spiders in a range of industries and locations are a part of the program.

I never got the chance to shadow, but I hope other students take this opportunity. I hope, too, that one day I can come back and pay forward the help so many alumni have given to me.

—Chris Cassella, '20

STAY CONNECTED



Our bad

Ross Lewis, L'10, sent us this great photo for last issue's class notes, but we somehow dropped the ball and left it out. Which is crazy, because look at it: Him with his friends and classmates, together in Hawaii, having a great time. “The biggest change from the group was that we grew from two kids at graduation to 11 now,” Ross wrote.

No matter what you’re celebrating — marriage, birth, a career accomplishment, or just a great afternoon — drop your Spider family a note to classnotes@richmond.edu. Or tell us about your life in this era of social distancing. We could all use the company and a good story or two.

Reunion will come

If your class year ends in a five or a zero, May was supposed to be your time to celebrate at Reunion Weekend. There’s now a new time frame to save on your calendar: Spring 2021. The university will reach out with specific information when it’s available.

“We look forward to the day when alumni, students, staff, and faculty can all return to our beautiful campus and be together,” the announcement of the delay read. “These are unprecedented times, and we are here for you.”

To get involved with your class’s plans, join your class year’s reunion committee. Contact the alumni relations office at 804-289-8030 or alumni@richmond.edu for more information.

Richmond Law at 150

Richmond Law alumni, take note: The University of Richmond School of Law is marking its 150th anniversary this year. The celebration culminates with an Oct. 10 gala in Richmond. For more information, go to law150.richmond.edu.



MORE INFO

Career Services has a variety of ways for alumni to network on campus with the next generation of Spiders.

To learn more about these opportunities or participate in Spider Shadowing, go to careerservices.richmond.edu/employers.

#SPIDERPRIDE



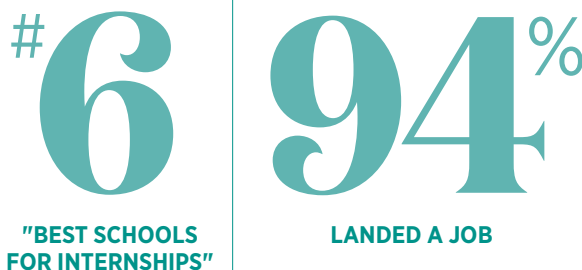
JUST PEACHY With a contingent of UR representatives on hand — including Sandra Peart, dean of the Jepson School of Leadership Studies — Georgia Gov. Brian Kemp honored philanthropist and entrepreneur Robert Jepson, B'64, GB'75, and H'87, at February's Georgia History Festival Trustees Gala in Savannah.

Jepson, center, a member of the 2020 class of Georgia Trustees, joined past Peach State inductees including civil rights leader Andrew Young, business mogul Ted Turner, and baseball legend Hank Aaron.

CAREER SERVICES



9 OUT OF 10 PARTICIPATED IN SUMMER EXPERIENCE



"BEST SCHOOLS FOR INTERNSHIPS"

LANDED A JOB

STUDENTS
INTERINED IN

52

Countries

396

Cities

45

States

Data show the power of UR's preparation for life after graduation.

Strong outcomes

Outcomes data shared in February by alumni and career services explained why the University of Richmond's landed at No. 6 ranking on the Princeton Review's "Best Schools for Internships" list in its 200 Best Value Colleges for 2020 report — and why it matters.

Nearly nine out of 10 students in the Class of 2020, or 89%, participated in some kind of summer experience during their undergraduate years. The top industry areas were finance, social impact, marketing, government, and research. The research category includes a significant amount of on-campus research conducted in close partnership with faculty.

These experiences took them far and wide. Students in this year's

graduating class interned in 52 countries, 396 cities, and 45 states, with Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, and Virginia making up the top five states, along with Washington, D.C. Internship sites included a who's who of employers of choice, including NASA, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, Google, Amazon, the U.S. Department of State, and numerous top financial firms.

Post-graduation data for the Class of 2019 shows where experiences like these can lead. According to survey responses, within one year of graduation, 24% of Spiders are enrolled in graduate school and, of those looking for employment, 94% have landed jobs.



SUMMER EXPERIENCES

UR is committed to giving students access to exceptional summer experiences. Through the Richmond Guarantee, the university provides funding of up to \$4,000 for an approved summer research or internship experience for every student before they graduate.

OF NOTE



Transition strategy

The work of Nadine Marsh-Carter, W'86 and L'95, president and CEO of the Children's Home Society of Virginia, featured prominently in *Aged Out: Finding Home*, a documentary that aired in January on Virginia Public Media. The film chronicles the lives of Richmond-area youth who aged out of the foster care system and participated in the Possibilities Project, a collaboration between Marsh-Carter's agency and the Better Housing Coalition.

Virginia has one of the highest rates nationally of youth who leave the foster system because they have turned 18 rather than because they have been adopted, according to data compiled by the project. Nearly 500 youth age out of Virginia's system annually.

"They leave the system without family supports and, sadly, many of the skills that young people need in order to thrive as an adult," Marsh-Carter told CBS6 in an interview. "They have great potential, great resiliency, and just need the supports that we would give a biological member of our family if we could."

The Possibilities Project provides stable housing and trauma-informed wraparound services guided by research and developed to be replicable by other agencies in Virginia and across the country.

A bright future

Honeybook.com selected Amy Reader, '15, for its 2020 "20 on the Rise" list, joining other creative professionals in their fields. A Charlotte, North Carolina-based fiber and installation artist, Reader sews nature-inspired textured fiber jewelry and wall art by hand, selling her work online and in markets in the Carolinas. Read more about it in her class note on Page 78.



MORE NEWS

This story first appeared online on SpiderPride.

For more stories about how Spiders off campus and on are responding to the coronavirus pandemic, visit spiderpride.richmond.edu.



EARLY HELP *Dave Raiser, '06, is CEO of a company that developed test kits for patients and medical providers at a Boston hospital in the earliest weeks of the pandemic's spread in New England.*

In March, one of Boston's major hospitals began conducting the largest number of on-site COVID-19 tests in New England thanks to the work of an alumnus's fast-moving biotech startup.

In just three weeks, CEO Dave Raiser, '06, and his team at Aldatu Biosciences developed a test for detecting the virus. A hospital with no capacity for testing was quickly able to check 200 initial samples and now has the ability to test 800 a week.

"Accomplishing this feat on an 18-day timeline is thanks to a coming together of private-sector and academic hospital partners, working to meet a critical need in a time of crisis," Raiser said in a release.

The test — called PANDAA qDx, or just PANDAA (pronounced like the bear) — allowed the hospital to provide reliable,

same-day results for the first time since the start of the global pandemic.

Amid concerns that hospital resources and national supplies for testing were becoming increasingly scarce, Raiser and his team quickly ramped up their efforts.

A hospital with no capacity for testing was quickly able to check 200 initial samples and now has the ability to test 800 a week.

The company's initial announcement in March said that it had enough material to create 25,000 test kits and would be able to create as many as 75,000 within just a few weeks. The kits also allowed health

care workers to be tested frequently on-site.

In response to the global pandemic, the FDA authorized the use of unapproved medical products in an emergency. And medical providers can bill the new test to health insurers, including Medicare and Medicaid.

Raiser and his co-founder, Iain MacLeod, created Aldatu to create diagnostic tools that detect early-stage infectious diseases. In 2018, the team was awarded a \$3 million contract to expand its ability to diagnose resistance to certain types of antiviral drugs used to treat HIV so that patients can be matched with the correct drug regimen. Since then, they've worked to expand the company's non-HIV program.

While at UR, Raiser studied biology and music before moving on to earn a doctorate in genetics from Harvard Medical School in 2015. He co-founded Aldatu in 2014 while still a doctoral student, earning the support of Harvard's Innovation Lab.

QUOTATION

“Historically, you had help when you dressed. My husband has been my lady maid.”

JESSICA YOUNG, '07, as quoted by the *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review*. Young is a historical reenactor, teaches historical sewing courses, and owns an online store that sells historical accessories, kits, and sewing supplies.

LEADERSHIP



Photograph by Mike Topham

Alumni are “the best-equipped advisers” at the Jepson EDGE Institute.

Where leaders gather

In the Jepson School of Leadership Studies, it’s common to hear students and professors discussing how to use a leadership studies major. But at the Jepson EDGE Institute, an annual workshop for Jepson students, alumni mentors gather to give back to the community that pushed them to be the leaders they are today.

Since Jepson graduated its first class in 1994, Jepson alumni have been the best-equipped advisers for current students on how they can apply the leadership skills they’ve developed to their professional lives.

“They’re the folks who can tell them how to best leverage what they’ve taken from Jepson,” said Kerstin Soderlund, associate dean for student and external affairs. “It really

helps our students understand that there’s pretty much almost every field and industry that they can go into.”

Jepson developed the program with both alumni and student input, structuring it with breakout sessions such as Elevator Pitch, the Ins & Outs of Interviewing, Backpack to Briefcase, and How to Use a LDST [Leadership Studies] Degree. Students are also paired with alumni mentors. This year, 80 students and 47 alumni attended; an additional 25 alumni helped organize the event.

EDGE “literally rises and falls on the alumni doing the planning and showing up,” Soderlund said. “The Jepson alumni have such a community when they’re here as students, and they want to come back.”

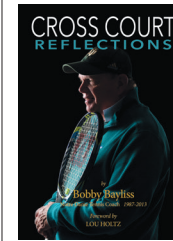


CONTINUED CONVERSATIONS

Through EDGE — which stands for Explore, Develop, Gain, Exceed — Jepson alumni can also network with their fellow graduates to learn about opportunities in leadership.

To learn more about Jepson alumni across the globe, visit jepson.richmond.edu/alumni.

BOOKS



CROSS COURT REFLECTIONS

BOBBY BAYLISS, R'66

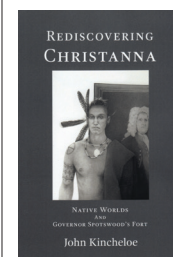
In this inspirational memoir of coaching and leadership that is applicable to all walks of life, Bayliss takes readers behind the scenes of the final season of his long tenure as Notre Dame’s head men’s tennis coach.



WINTER'S WARMTH

CORINNE LUCK, B'90

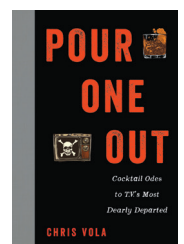
This children’s book about kindness in the coldest season was inspired by a December 2018 photo of three snowmen in Ashland, Virginia, where Luck lives. Collages, mixed media, handmade printed paper, and a positive message make it extremely accessible for its intended audience.



REDISCOVERING CHRISTANNA: NATIVE WORLDS AND GOVERNOR SPOTSWOOD'S FORT

JOHN KINCHELOE, R'73

“The most significant and scholarly approach to the history of Fort Christanna to date,” says a colleague about this history, which uses primary sources and archaeological findings to emphasize the perspective of Native American men and women.



POUR ONE OUT: COCKTAIL ODES TO T.V.'S MOST DEARLY DEPARTED

CHRISTOPHER VOLZ, '07

Volz, a New York bartender and fiction writer, took on the challenge of penning cocktail recipes for iconic dead television characters. As one reviewer put it, “*Pour One Out* fills a niche I didn’t even realize was empty.”

NOTES

We welcome your news. Send information to your class secretary or directly to the magazine at classnotes@richmond.edu. Or you may mail it to the magazine at Puryear Hall • 118 UR Drive • University of Richmond, VA 23173. Please include your class year and the name you were known by as a student, if different than today. For your children, please include birth dates rather than ages. Photographs of alumni are welcome and encouraged. Please note that the magazine does not publish news of engagements or pregnancies. Information may take up to two issues to publish. Class notes do not appear on the magazine's website.

The magazine uses undergraduate degree designations for graduates through 1992, and law, graduate, and honorary degree designations for all years.

- B Robins School of Business
- C School of Professional and Continuing Studies
- G Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
- GB Richard S. Reynolds Graduate School of Business
- GC Graduate School of Professional and Continuing Studies
- H Honorary Degree
- L School of Law
- R Richmond College
- W Westhampton College

'43 **IN MEMORIAM**
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University of Richmond Magazine

Class notes are available only in the print edition. To submit your news and photos, contact your class secretary or email us at classnotes@richmond.edu.

'46 **IN MEMORIAM**
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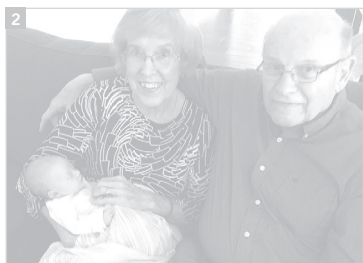
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For information about photos, see:

1. Ann Hanbury Callis, W'54
2. Jacquelin "Jackie" Connell Atkinson, W'59
3. Kendal East Harvey, W'64
4. Robert A. Prehn, R'76
5. Kimberly Kettle Hartke, B'78
6. Linda Schaefer Cameron, W'88

CHARLES GESHEKTER, R'60



A lifelong student of Africa

When he was a UR student, Charles Geshekte, R'60, became embroiled in "a testy newspaper exchange" with a professor at the University of Virginia. While the professor warned that newly independent leaders in Africa threatened Western democracies, Geshekte criticized the defense of racial inequalities inherent in colonial rule.

"I think I needed to say something," Geshekte said from California, where he now lives. "It wasn't anything more complicated than that."

The exchange, however, changed the course of his future. While he had come to UR intent on becoming a dentist, he enrolled in professor John Rilling's class on the British Empire. Rilling had followed the exchange and encouraged Geshekte to deliver two lectures on African history to the class. Geshekte gathered considerable source material from Boatwright Memorial Library and telephoned the newly opened Kenyan embassy in Washington for help explaining Kikuyu names and terms.

Following his presentation, Rilling told the young Geshekte that he needed to undertake graduate study in African history. "Rilling was a patient, professional role model who cultivated and inspired my intellectual curiosity about Africa," Geshekte said.

"As a graduate student, I benefited from a very solid liberal arts education at UR," said Geshekte, who went on to earn a master's in African history from Howard University and a doctorate in history from UCLA. Geshekte is likely the first Richmond alumnus to earn a doctorate in African history.

He taught African history at California State University, Chico, for 40 years, completed several years of African fieldwork with a specialization in 20th-century Somalia and in 1984 directed a short documentary, *The Parching Winds of Somalia*.

"I am a Somaliophile, if there is such a word," Geshekte said. "I brought as much as I could from the field to my classes. I could not have been as good a teacher of African history if I hadn't spent time in different parts of Africa."

—Cynthia Price

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'55 HAPPY REUNION YEAR!
WATCH FOR NEWS ABOUT YOUR
RESCHEDULED REUNION WEEKEND
HAPPENING IN SPRING 2021

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Work that touches lives

Rob Lederer, B'78, was at the Responsible Business Alliance's annual conference when he received an urgent call. As executive director of the RBA, a nonprofit organization focused on corporate social responsibility, or CSR, in global supply chains, he was hesitant to leave the stage but was told that someone from the U.S. government was on the phone, and it was important.

Several days later, he was at the White House to accept the 2019 Presidential Award for Extraordinary Efforts to Combat Trafficking in Persons for the RBA's work and leadership "to push for industrywide change to enhance worker protections, transform the market for ethical recruitment practices, and promote strong management systems to prevent human trafficking and trafficking risks in global supply chains."

His organization focuses on the entire supply chain for large companies, including supplier factories in Asia and Mexico, where risks of forced and bonded labor are major challenges. "Our work touches the lives of millions around the world," he said. "These workers are the most vulnerable."

The RBA's growth and impact are points of pride for Lederer, who was its first full-time staff member. The alliance — which has offices in North America, Europe, and Asia — has a developed a code of conduct and a range of programs, training, and assessment tools to support continual improvement. Nearly 400 companies that directly employ more 21.5 million people and manufacture in more than 120 countries are members of the RBA and its initiatives.

"The companies come together for a mission of good. At the end of the day, many determine what they do based on what people care about," said Lederer, noting a growing CSR trend across the globe. Adopting the best CSR practices can be expensive, but today, many customers demand it.

"It's a journey. The companies have to believe in it from their core mission."

—Stacey Dec, '20

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A mathematics mentor

Marion Stokes earned many teaching awards during her 44 years as a professor in the department of mathematics and computer science. Her legacy lives on through the many women she mentored.

In 1985, when Kathy Hoke was interviewing for a mathematics faculty position, the University of Richmond stood out from the other universities she visited.

"How many people had female members in their departments? Not many. There was usually one or two, and often they were younger," she recalls. "UR was very different. There were Marion Stokes and Libby Taylor, who were clearly senior members of the department. That was unusual, to have two women at that level."

Taylor would retire soon after Hoke was hired. Stokes, who retired in 1994, became a mentor and friend over the years to Hoke, who is department chair today. Even after her retirement, Stokes (above right, in 1993) continued to go out for lunch with Hoke (above left) to offer an ear for commiseration and advice.

"Nothing ever flapped her," Hoke said. "She'd seen it all."

When Stokes joined Richmond's mathe-

matics department in 1950, she was a pioneer in a field that still struggles to recruit women in the same numbers as men. Hoke said that having Stokes as a sounding board was invaluable early in her career.

"Affirming, I guess, is the word," Hoke said. "You can feel so inadequate as a young faculty member. There are so many places you need to be spending your time. When you're at home, you feel like you should be at work. When you're at work, you feel like you should be home. That she had been through it before and talked to me about it was enormously affirming."

Mathematics professor Della Dumbaugh, who joined the department at the tail end of Stokes' career, has studied the history of women in the profession.

"What [Stokes] didn't know at the time — and research in the last 20 years has shown — is that when you have someone in the front of the classroom that looks like you, it's a tremendous boost," she said.

"We now call it being a role model and mentor, but Marion didn't have the luxury of knowing that — at least not officially, but I think she probably knew it on some level."

Whatever she knew about what she was doing, it was working. Stokes was popular with students and remains one of those faculty members that alumni always ask about, according to Hoke.

"It was always the rumor that she failed more people than anybody else, but people still begged to get into her class," Hoke said. "She was just enormously organized, could teach anything, and loved to teach."

Another lasting gift Stokes gave the department was the Stokes Fund for Mathematics and Computer Science, which she and her husband established to provide discretionary funds to whomever was department chair.

"When somebody came in, if they had a fantastic idea, I never had to throw a wet blanket on it," Hoke said, referring to managing the department budget as chair. "I could always say, 'That sounds great. Keep going. Let's see where it goes.'"



REPRESENTATION

Earlier this year, the National Center for Women and Technology awarded a grant to a team led by Hoke that is focused on recruiting and retaining women and other underrepresented students as computer science majors and minors.

The plan they are developing focuses on new approaches to early computer science courses, expanding peer tutoring opportunities, and training in diversity and inclusion best practices.

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“I remember seeing Churchill and Eisenhower when they came to Richmond. I was a student at John Marshall High School, and we were allowed to leave school to go over to Grace Street to see the parade.”

— Lu Angell Soukup, W'52

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ROBERT WOODS, B'89



The cybersecurity biz

Cybercriminals and adversaries threaten our way of life by attacking systems we depend on each day.

As the president of Equator, a Virginia-based government contracting company specializing in cybersecurity, Robert Woods, B'89, is committed to guarding against that threat. Woods' wife, Karen, B'89, is the company's chief operating officer. Clients include the Department of Defense, the Army, and NASA, which recently awarded Equator an exclusive license for cybersecurity software.

"Equator developed unique, game-changing technology to give control back to users and restore confidence in our ability to protect the data and systems we rely on," Woods said.

Woods launched the company in 2008 after realizing he had a knack and passion for working with technical issues. Woods runs a team of nearly 100, including many former military agency leaders.

"What excites me and my team the most is solving difficult problems," said Woods. "Our unique blend of talent, passion, and expertise allows us to focus on challenging, complex systems — both how to design them and how to protect them."

A St. Louis native, Woods majored in business as an undergraduate. He also ran cross-country and participated in the ROTC program while at UR. Woods said he applies his UR education every day.

"The professors were teaching you practical business information that you need to succeed, and I especially enjoyed the class size and engagement," said Woods.

Woods said he would encourage business majors today to make sure they understand the changing landscape of human resources and pay attention to the tools needed to retain and take care of people.

"In business, everything is the team. I need to take care of the team," Woods said. "This human element of business is so important."

—Sunni Brown, GC'18

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HAPPENING IN SPRING 2021

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—*Judith Acree Hansen, W'62*

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For information about photos, see:

- 7. Kimberly Getty, '99
- 8. Amy Cichewicz, '00
- 9. Megan C. Hackett, '01
- 10. Mike Coleman, '02
- 11. Stacey Tharp Davenport, L'02
- 12. Vito Chiaravalloti, '03



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SHELLEY FRANCIS, '95



Sustainable transportation

Two Uber rides changed the career trajectory of Shelley Francis, '95. A pre-med health sciences and women's studies major at UR, she went on to achieve master's and doctoral degrees in public health and teaches graduate-level public health courses at Walden University.

On two occasions in two cities while traveling for work, she found herself chatting with the drivers of electric vehicles. Her curiosity piqued, she realized that electric vehicles not only might be a good fit for her lifestyle, but also might address public health concerns around respiratory health, cardiovascular health, and life expectancy.

Soon after becoming an EV owner, she co-founded EVHybridNoire, a nonprofit bridging transportation innovation, public and environmental health, and equity. Now the nation's largest network of diverse EV owners, it increases awareness, education, and advocacy on sustainable transportation across a diverse set of communities.

"The transportation landscape is changing," said Francis. Electric vehicles provide mobility without gas costs, almost no maintenance costs, and clean emissions at increasingly affordable prices. For people burdened by transportation costs and challenges, and in neighborhoods affected most heavily by air pollution, electric vehicles offer good news for improving daily life for years to come, she said.

Retirees, immigrants, college students, entrepreneurs — everyone stands to benefit from this transit innovation, Francis noted, though not all are at the business table or engaged in community-level discussions. "If your voice isn't at the table, decisions are being made that impact you, but you don't have any say in it."

That's another problem EVHybridNoire takes on, promoting STEM education, awareness, and workforce development opportunities in the new green economy.

"Electrification," she said, "is definitely the wave of the future."

—Cheyenne Varner, '13

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EMILY MOORE, '99



Trust in her own ability

Sept. 23, 2019, was a big day for Emily Moore, '99. After five years as a freelancer working for ad agencies and tech companies such as Facebook, Google, 72andSunny, and MAL \ FOR GOOD, she returned to the corporate workforce as a full-time executive producer at Google Creative Lab.

For many people, the opportunity to work at Google and, among other things, produce a Super-Bowl ad — as Moore did with the tender 2020 spot “Loretta” — would be a dream come true all by itself. But for Moore, Sept. 23 was just as significant for another reason. On that day, the film *I Am With You*, which Moore produced and co-directed, went live. It tells the story of sexual assault survivor Chanel Miller and was timed with the publication of her *New York Times* bestselling memoir, *Know My Name*.

Moore says she was grateful for the opportunity to work with Miller and the production team of more than 25 women to share Miller's ordeals following the former Stanford University student's 2015 assault by Brock Turner, a case that made national headlines. Moore hopes the film will help change how people view victims of sexual abuse.

“[Miller] is, as everyone is, a multifaceted individual with all kinds of skills and talents and things to offer,” Moore said. “You can't be defined by just an event that happened to you.”

Moore's first film, *Refugee*, a documentary she co-produced and co-directed, premiered at the Telluride Film Festival in 2016. It went on to be an official selection in 28 festivals, winning best documentary short in eight.

Moore, who interned at the Virginia Film Office while a student at UR, says she's arrived at a rewarding place in her film and advertising career.

“It's being able to finally find myself in a place where I trust my own ability and instinct to make things on my own and at the same time trust and believe that there's something really beautiful about collaboration.”

—Cheryl Spain

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“It would be fun to see the campus and what's new and pretend to be 20-somethings again.”

**—Nancy Saunders
Kaplon, W'66**

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A 'STYLISH' MACHINE *The sudden push to videoconferencing software in response to COVID-19 is upending how many people learn, work, and live. For an earlier generation, it was laptops that turned what they knew upside down.*

"Richmond was first, Stanford is second ..." the dean bragged in a headline in the Winter 1995 issue of *Richmond Law*, the law school's magazine. "And Southern Cal, Chicago-Kent, Harvard, UCLA, Cornell, and other law schools may be close behind."

And what was Dean Joseph Harbaugh's bragging point? Personal laptops. Richmond Law was in midst of unrolling a first-in-the-nation requirement that law students come to class equipped with their own laptop computers and personal printers, which took effect for the fall 1995 semester.

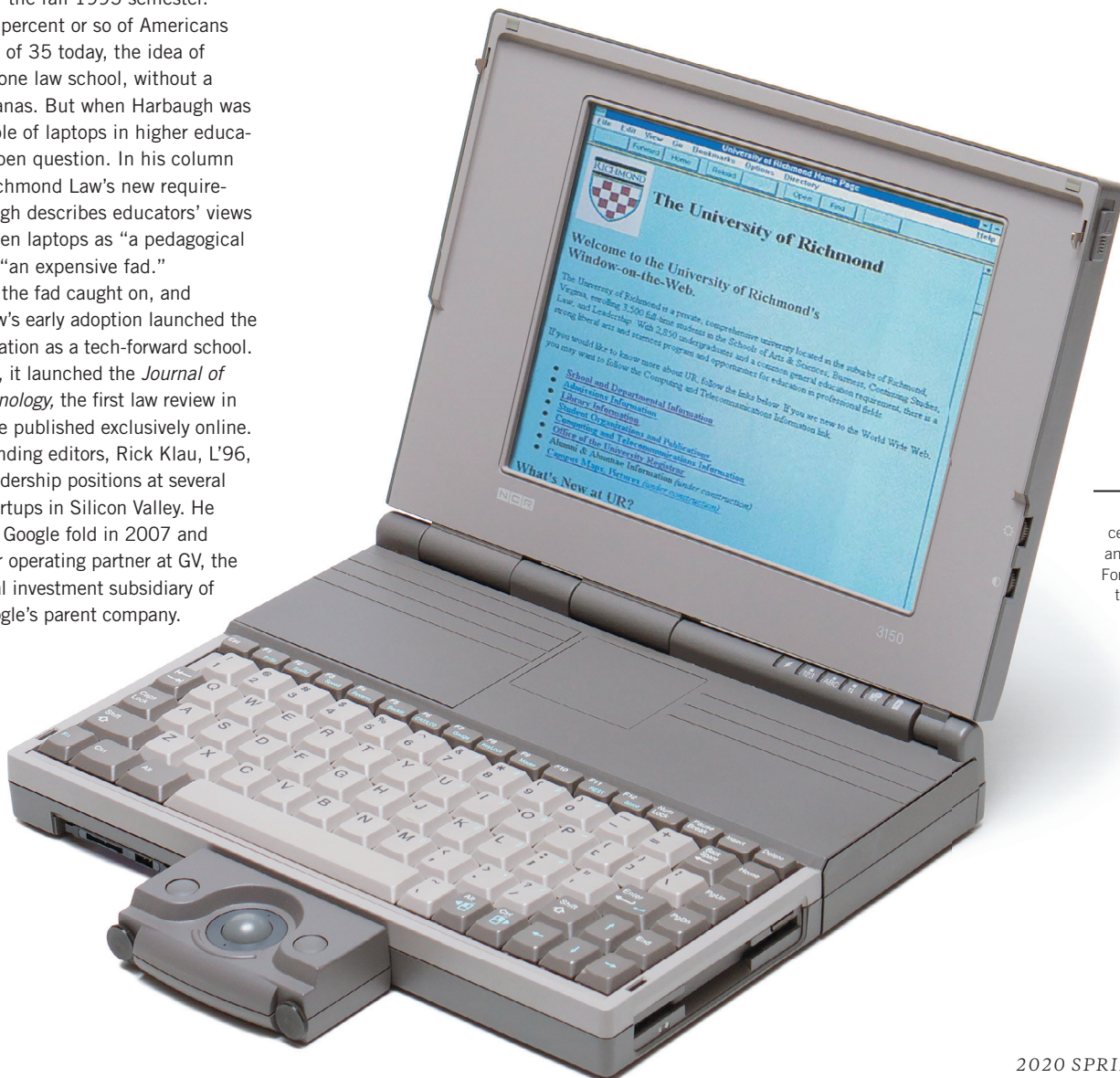
For the 46 percent or so of Americans under the age of 35 today, the idea of college, let alone law school, without a laptop is bananas. But when Harbaugh was writing, the role of laptops in higher education was an open question. In his column explaining Richmond Law's new requirement, Harbaugh describes educators' views as split between laptops as "a pedagogical necessity" or "an expensive fad."

Safe to say the fad caught on, and Richmond Law's early adoption launched the school's reputation as a tech-forward school. In April 1995, it launched the *Journal of Law and Technology*, the first law review in the world to be published exclusively online. One of its founding editors, Rick Klau, L'96, went on to leadership positions at several successful startups in Silicon Valley. He came into the Google fold in 2007 and today is senior operating partner at GV, the venture capital investment subsidiary of Alphabet, Google's parent company.

In 1995, the computer technology that we take for granted today was just emerging throughout the legal field. A survey of 500 Richmond Law alumni conducted in fall 1994 showed that only 42% had access to "electronic mail," and only 79% of those who worked in offices with between six and 10 lawyers had a computer on their desks.

Richmond Law identified a specific model of laptop for its students, the NCR 3150 (below). Advertisements of the day touted its color-optional 9.5-inch screen, hard-disk capacity up to 170 MB, and its feather-like weight, just 6.3 pounds. The sticker price started at \$1,995 and went up to \$3,805, depending on features. *Compute!* magazine, which reviewed the model in 1994, said this "stylish" machine "might just be worth the investment."

Hindsight makes it tempting to chuckle, of course, so it's worth noting how seriously the law school and university have long grappled with rapid changes taking them in directions they couldn't have anticipated. The law magazine issue describing the laptop requirement included a 13-page story package about how new technologies were impacting the legal profession, legal education, and the lives of alumni. At the university level, leaders were also exploring the possibilities of emerging technology. The Spring 1995 issue of this magazine, for example, touted another bold new step, the May 1 public launch of what you see on the screen below: the university's very first home page.



150
RICHMOND LAW AT
LAW AT 150

Richmond Law is celebrating its 150th anniversary this year. For information about the school's history, recollections by alumni, and more, go to law150.richmond.edu.

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“Whenever my father carried my suitcase upstairs after I came back to the dorm from home, I would have to yell, ‘Man on the hall.’ My father said that made him feel like he was somehow unsavory.”

—Carole Waite Kinder, W’71

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'75 **HAPPY REUNION YEAR!**
WATCH FOR NEWS ABOUT YOUR
RESCHEDULED REUNION WEEKEND
HAPPENING IN SPRING 2021

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JOE HOROWITZ, '01



The 40-year-old version

The focus of Joe Horowitz's music is his life. His melodies tell real-life stories, ones that have matured as he has grown older. As he enters his 40s, Horowitz, '01, has become introspective.

"You start really taking a look at yourself," he said. "You stop writing a song about the girl in the bar and start with the mom in the coffee shop."

Before he became the accomplished musician he is today, Horowitz was one of the best golfers to come through Richmond and still keeps his game active. His current golf goals are to play in the U.S. and British opens; he missed the cut for the 2019 U.S. Open by one shot.

"I want to compete and stay competitive in the few events that I play in. I think it's great from a mental capacity," he said.

Horowitz constantly reaffirms the overlap between golf and music. In fact, it was his swing coach that put him in touch with one of the collaborators for his newest release, *Save Yourself*. Horowitz plays at the golf tournaments as both a golfer and a musician, something he values and hopes to continue. It gives him the opportunity, also, to play with big-name stars ranging from rapper Macklemore to former members of the Eagles. These events give Horowitz a chance to show off his skills as a musician.

"Once you get on stage with those guys and you're singing, you're almost automatically associated with them, and you don't scare away the audience," he said. "It's brought me to the next phase in my life."

Performing at these events keeps Horowitz on the path to his goals as a musician. Unlike making the U.S. Open, however, his goals for music are less tangible.

"My goal is to keep making music," he said. "I want people to hear it so I can keep making music. I never want to sing to an empty room."

—Chris Cassella, '20

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“We just put up our first bird feeder, so I guess we are officially retired.”
— **Gayle Goodson Butler, W’73**

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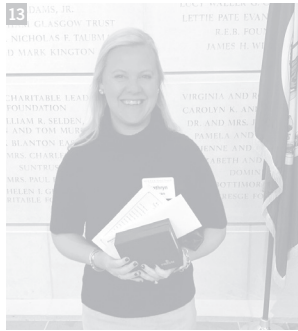
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For information about photos, see:
 13. Katy Fulton Regan, '05
 14. John Ferris, '06
 15. Chelsea Rock Haynes, '06
 16. Elizabeth McWhirt Kurz, '07
 17. Heather Shields, '07
 18. Trevor Tetzlaff, '07



On to the next challenge, again

Classmates of Anne Galyean, '09, might remember her as the daredevil jumping her bike off the stairs behind D-hall. "I'd just ride my bike around campus looking for a challenge ... for things to jump off of."

For Galyean, if it's difficult, it's worth doing. She's now a Seattle-based scientist at an environmental toxicology firm and has made a career out of turning challenges into opportunities.

After studying chemistry at Richmond, she earned her doctorate in aquatic nanochemistry, a degree she had to create when her program at UNC Chapel Hill didn't have exactly what she was looking for. And when the environmental health and safety community told her she couldn't use nanoparticles — which she researched under Professor Mike Leopold — to clean drinking water due to a lack of research on nanoparticles' environmental impact, she made it her mission to learn more about them.

After UNC, she moved across the country for something completely new — chemical engineering. "Because, why not?" she said. In Colorado, she fabricated nanobiosensors, a technology that could one day help monitor targets in biological systems, like blood glucose levels in diabetics.

"For example, people with diabetes could one day get a tattoo on their skin with nanobiosensors that would change color when glucose levels got too high or too low," she said. "It could save lives."

While working on science that could one day save lives, Galyean was risking hers. In 2009, she started racing mountain bikes and raced professionally for six years, an interest she picked up while studying in New Zealand during her junior year at UR.

Her latest challenge? She's the head mechanic in her home garage on a 23-year-old Toyota 4Runner project, a task she's teaching herself how to do.

"It's got to be challenging enough to make it interesting," she said.

—Lindsey Campbell, GC'20

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"I have 28 godchildren and 12,000 sons (give or take). I am also the unofficial mayor of Hampden-Sydney, Virginia."

—Anita Garland, W'74

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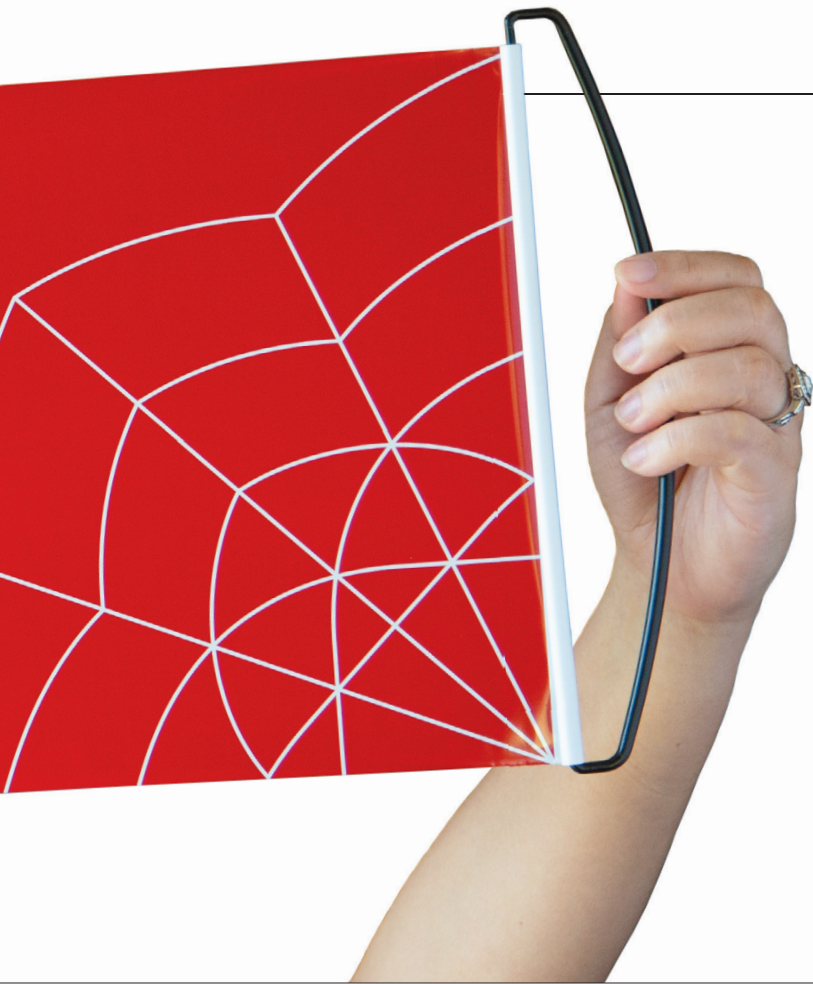
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No Spider wedding is complete without Spider swag. The University of Richmond Alumni Association and the alumni relations office partnered to create these banners, perfect for any wedding photo full of Spiders. To get yours, just email alumni@richmond.edu. And be sure to send us your photos to classnotes@richmond.edu.

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**“I have been to every
continent except
Antarctica.”**

—*Carl R. Augustsson, '99*

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CHET'LA SEBREE, '10



A poet of polyvocality

Few may know as well as Chet'la Sebree, '10, what Toni Morrison meant when she said, "Writing is about putting things together."

Sebree's childhood fascination with Sally Hemings, an enslaved woman who bore children fathered by Thomas Jefferson, revived while she completed her master's in creative writing at American University. As Sebree then taught and completed fellowships at institutions including the MacDowell Colony, Hedgebrook, and Yaddo, her production of Hemings-inspired poetry evolved and grew. For a time, she even stayed at Jefferson's Monticello, thumbing historical documents from its libraries and studying artifacts from its slave quarters. After a retreat dedicated to the burgeoning body of work, *Mistress* was completed, published, and awarded the 2018 New Issues Poetry Prize.

With a gripping poetic voice, *Mistress* explores dynamics of race, color, sex, and power. It wrestles with a term like "mistress" being applied to a black woman owned by a white man, as well as the "devastating similarities" between navigating the world as a woman of color in the 19th century and today.

Sebree, an assistant professor at Bucknell University and director of the Stadler Center for Poetry & Literary Arts, has begun her next work. A hybrid of poetry and nonfiction, it will continue her investigation of the power and diversity of black women's experiences, now within a modern-day narrative.

"People often look at black women as monolith," she said, affirming that it was important to her "to resist people's impulses to say something like, 'Oh I finally understand what it's like to be a black woman.'"

In addition to publication in journals and anthologies including the *Kenyon Review*, *Pleiades*, *wildness*, *Guernica*, *Poetry International*, and *The Account*, Sebree recently received an NAACP Image Award nomination. "That gave me something that I needed," she said, "the validation that there is value in celebrating this polyvocality."

—Cheyenne Varner, '13

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HAPPY REUNION YEAR!
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HAPPENING IN SPRING 2021

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DAVID BURD, '10



Photograph by Kayla Johnson/Creative Commons

Just call him Dave

Back at the Robins School of Business, his classmates knew him as Dave Burd. A few years after graduation, the pop culture world got to know him as Lil Dicky, a rapper whose videos attracted hundreds of millions of views online. Now, Burd hopes a new television show will help people start to know him as Dave again, says *The New York Times*.

Dave, an FXX series launched in March, is a fictionalized but semi-autobiographical account of Burd's unlikely rise as a hip-hop star. It begins just after the launch of his first video, which earned more than a million views in 24 hours. Overnight, he went from working at an ad agency and being everyone's funniest friend to someone with a viral hit and a chance to build a music career.

Burd is the co-creator and star of the show, which mines his "bucket of shameful, embarrassing, amazing stories," *Dave*'s co-creator Jeff Schaffer, an executive producer of *Curb Your Enthusiasm* and *Seinfeld*, told *The New York Times*. *Dave* also attracted comedian Kevin Hart and director Greg Mottola of *Superbad* fame as executive producers.

A reviewer for *The Washington Post* called the series "surprisingly deep," adding that it is "a thoughtful (if inane) exploration of masculinity." The reviewer notes that Burd's rap persona often mines humor based on sexual insecurities. These insecurities, in turn, open up space for the show's other characters to "start talking about their own issues — mental illness," in one character's case.

Burd has occasionally cast the university for cameo appearances in his lyrics and videos. In the video for the 2015 song "Professional Rapper," featuring Snoop Dogg, he does both during a spontaneous job interview with the rap legend. "I was undergrad down there in Richmond," he raps as cartoon versions of the pair stand in front of a large UR shield. On YouTube, the video has 178 million views and counting.

—Matthew Dewald

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"He is our first child, and we are madly in love with him."

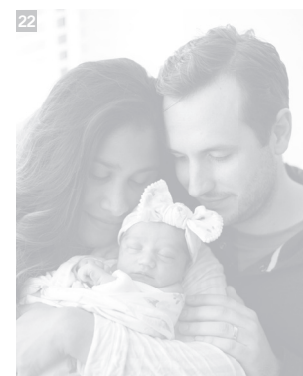
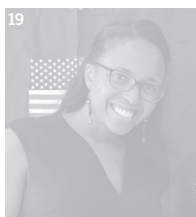
—John Ferris, '06

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For information about photos, see:
 19. Imani Esparza Pitman, '09
 20. Patricia Laverty, '12
 21. Justin Baker, '13
 22. Andrea Vega Brewer, '13
 23. Austin Santoro, '13
 24. Amy Reader, '15

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“It’s crazy how close you are to the sharks while filming because on TV, they look so much farther away.”

—Elizabeth McWhirt Kurz, '07

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How've you been?

Spider class notes have been part of this magazine since 1936. Send us yours.

Random Spider encounters • Births and deaths • New degrees and jobs — retirements, too! • Fabulous vacations • Weekend getaways • Classmate reunions • Community service • Weddings and moves • Job losses, setbacks, and fresh starts of all kinds • Revelations, revelry, and reflections • Good reads • Photos, photos, and more photos • Simple notes to say hello

CLASSNOTES@RICHMOND.EDU

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FACULTY, STAFF, AND FRIENDS

IN MEMORIAM

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LAUREN ODDO, '15



Still a researcher, but now as a doctoral student

Planning to follow in the footsteps of her parents, Lauren Oddo, '15, arrived at the University of Richmond expecting to pursue a career in law. One first-year course quickly redirected her to clinical psychology.

"It was an immediate click for me," said Oddo as she recalled her introductory psychology course with professor Laura Knouse.

Now a third-year doctoral student at the University of Maryland, Oddo is the recipient of a National Institutes of Health award to support her research of college students with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder and their involvement in risky behaviors, such as alcohol and substance misuse. Oddo first began to study ADHD with Knouse as an undergraduate research assistant.

"Professors at Richmond work with undergrads on research that I do now as a doctoral student," she said. "That experience and environment is just so incredible and rare."

Oddo's current grant-supported research seeks to better understand an individual's daily decision-making and encourage students with ADHD to make choices that align with and reinforce their goals, rather than engage in risky behaviors. Her research also leverages technology — such as mobile phones — in intervention tactics to reinforce positive decision-making.

This research is expected to prevent negative outcomes for young adults and college students with ADHD and may be applied to early intervention tactics for teens or younger children living with the disorder. Oddo plans to continue her work in clinical psychology in an academic-medical setting where she is able to work with patients as a researcher — allowing her research to inform the treatment and the treatment to inform her research — a setting she experienced early in her education at Richmond.

—Ashley Bentley, GC'19

Role players

With no seniors on the roster, the leaders of this year's 24-7, NCAA tourney-hopeful team were its juniors. Like a good chess piece, each one moved according to his role but with common purpose. Take note, Atlantic 10 and Division I: They're all expected back next season and already showing up in preseason top-25 rankings.

Blake Francis | *The Obstacle*

Single-minded with ferocious focus. A shutdown artist capable of smothering the ambitions of any ballhandler. Opposing players might look at his 6-foot frame and think, "I'm bigger than him." Those players are wrong.

Jordan Gaitley | *The Legislator*

Can talk to anyone — and does. Likable to every constituency, host of every gathering, everyone's best friend. The glue-man who brings everyone together on the bus, in the locker room, and everywhere else he goes.

Nathan Cayo | *The Soldier*

A physically imposing and tight-lipped presence who lets his play do the talking. His stern demeanor might make him inscrutable to opponents, but his talent and fearlessness buoy the team whenever he's marching down the court.

Grant Golden | *The Olympian*

Broad-shouldered and follicly blessed, he's a chiseled 6'10" pillar who plays with the grit of a 5'10" walk-on. He's the one talking in the huddle in every timeout, the patriarch of the team.

Sullivan Kulju | *The Jester*

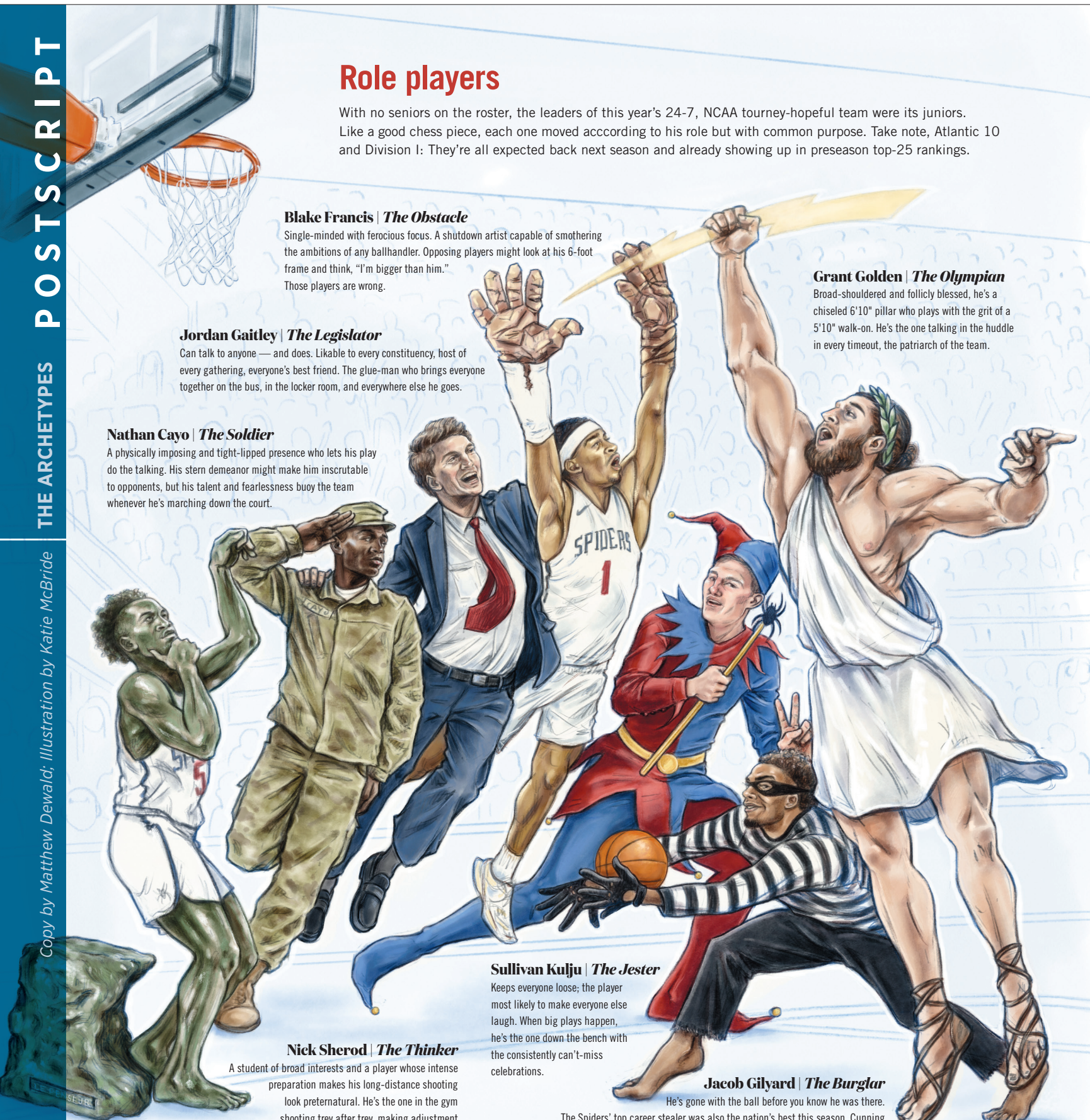
Keeps everyone loose; the player most likely to make everyone else laugh. When big plays happen, he's the one down the bench with the consistently can't-miss celebrations.

Nick Sherod | *The Thinker*

A student of broad interests and a player whose intense preparation makes his long-distance shooting look preternatural. He's the one in the gym shooting trey after trey, making adjustment after adjustment, hour after hour.

Jacob Gilyard | *The Burglar*

He's gone with the ball before you know he was there. The Spiders' top career stealer was also the nation's best this season. Cunning and deceptive, he'll score on you, steal your inbounds pass, and score again.



We are Spiders.

AND WE'RE IN THIS TOGETHER.

OUR SPIDERS ARE MANY THINGS: strong, adaptable, compassionate, resilient. When confronted with a challenge, we do not falter; we lean in and overcome, employing resourceful solutions to make the best of the situation. Even when miles separate us — when only phone calls and computer screens connect us — we know we're in this together. We have each other's backs. And we take heart knowing nothing can weaken our 63,000-strong Spider family.

See what's within us and what we're doing to help at
richmond.edu.



COVID-19 updates

University of Richmond officials continue to closely monitor the outbreak of COVID-19 to ensure the safety of the university community and the furtherance of our educational mission. As new information about the outbreak and its potential impact on the Spider community becomes available, the university is sending updates via email and posting to this site:

richmond.edu/coronavirus

If you are not already receiving email updates from the university and would like to begin receiving them, email us at magazine@richmond.edu.